SENATE TRANSPORTATION

MINUTES

PAGES ATTENDING

Date: 6

Committee: ransportation

Room: 10c

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P	age Name	Hometown	Sponsoring Senator
1	sara worth Hodges	locky mount	Jenkins
2	Miller clanc	Tarboro	Jenkins
3	Eliza strughton	Greenville	TONKING
4	Kensiel paugnatidael	Rocky Mount	swinder)
5	Emma rark	Rocky mount	swindel)
6	Olivia Roberton	Rocky mount	swinder
7	Branan Cumalanda	Cary	4 fevens
8	TONI SEADU	Manter	Bashiaht
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Do not add additional names below the grid.

Pages: Please present this form to either the Committee Clerk at the eeting or a Sgt. at Arms.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION

N JUNE 9, 2010

Name of Committee

Date

<u>VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE</u> <u>CLERK</u>

NAME	FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS
Barban Canalu.	Pseac
PAIGE WORSHAM	SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT
Johanna Reese	DOT
Thomas C. Caves, Jr.	M Rept. of Crime Control : Public Satex
Colleen Kochanele	Kochonek Can Grayp
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HASSAN KAM	N(CW
Marc Nichals	NCSHP
Tim Belch	NCSHP
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SENATE TRANSPORTATION

JUNE 9, 2010

Name of Committee

Date

<u>VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE</u> <u>CLERK</u>

NAME	FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS
Mitney Campbell	Jordanfrice
Crystal Collins	NCTA.
Dava Featon	aty of Charlotte
Doug LA Sister	NC 87A
Anntone M ANNON	NCACE

Name of Committee	Date	_
SENATE TRANSPORTATION	JUNE 9, 2010	

<u>VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE</u> . <u>CLERK</u>

NAME.	FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS			
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Senate Transportation Committee Wednesday, June 9, 2010, 11:00 AM 1027 LB

AGENDA

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Introduction of Pages

Bills

Regulate Towing From Private Lots. Highway Patrol Motor Carrier Fines	=
and Fees.	•

Other Business

Adjournment

MINUTES

Senate Transportation Committee Wednesday, June 9, 2010 11:00 AM

1027 Legislative Building

The Senate Transportation Committee met on June 9, 2010 at 11:00am in Room 1027 of the Legislative Building in Raleigh, NC. Senator Larry Shaw, Chair, called the meeting to order. Senator Shaw introduced Committee Staff and Senate Pages and welcomed Committee members and visitors.

Senator Rucho was called to the podium to explain SB 1136, Regulate Towing from Private Lots. The PCS was approved to be brought before the Committee. Senator Rucho's explained the issue originated in Transportation Oversight. In Huntersville an automobile was towed from a private lot to a lot 40 miles away in Shelby, NC. It took the owner a day to find the vehicle at a cost of \$200 including gas and the fine. This bill prohibits removal of vehicles more than 15 miles from the place of towing. Also, a system is set up where if one believes the towing and storage charges are excessive and pays these charges; there is a vehicle within the magistrate system to rebate back those dollars. Additionally, this bill eliminates the practice of someone having to sign a waiver of their rights (i.e. vehicle damaged; done improperly). The penalty is increased to up to \$100 for taking a vehicle improperly. Any city or municipality that has towing laws can maintain those laws to cover the area. The PCS was amended to add Mecklenburg County to the bill. The motion to adopt the amendment to the PCS passed favorably. Senator McKissick asked about the different size towing signs. Staff Attorney Brenda Carter stated the law says the sign can be no smaller than 24x24; the bill does not change that. Ms. Colleen Kochanek, representing the Towing and Recovery Group, was asked by Senator Shaw if the Towing Industry had anything to say concerning the bill. Ms. Kochanek replied the magistrate section of the bill is being worked on with Senator Rucho. Sen. McKissick asked has the towing group run into issues over sign size. Ms. Kochanek had not heard any issues about the size of signs but has heard complaints of the signs being knocked down. Ms. Kochanek said she would be happy to work with Sen. McKissick to work on language to address his issue regarding size sign. Sen. McKissick amended the bill to delete Durham. The motion to amend the bill carried and the PCS was placed back before the Committee. Senator Stevens moved for a favorable report and Senator Graham second.

Senator Shaw announced the next bill before the Committee was SB 1214, Highway Patrol Motor Carrier Fines and Fees. Senator Jenkins came to the podium to explain the bill. Senator Jenkins said the bill was technical in nature, cleaning up odds and ends that deal with the vehicle enforcement part of Highway Patrol. Annually the Motor Carrier

Safety Administration audits states' rules and regulations, sometimes finding discrepancies between federal and state laws. Sections 1 and 5 of the bill addressed such discrepancies. Section 3 closes a loophole in relation to farmers. Currently farmers are allowed, even with a small weighted license on a vehicle, to carry up to 80,000 pounds of crop. This bill continues to allow farmers to carry 80,000 pounds but farmers have to have the vehicle registered to do so. Farm Bureau has no problems with this particular provision. Section 4 has to do with a fee (not a new fee). This says Highway Patrol can keep costs for the escort service instead of giving it to the General Fund. Section 6 will allow Highway Patrol to file a civil suit against truckers who are delinquent in paying their fines to the State. Senator Soles asked do the truckers pay the fine to Wake County or wherever the citation took place. Marc Nichols, a Highway Patrol representative, says the fine goes to either Wake County or the county the offence took place. Senator Soles would rather have the fine go to where the citation took place. Mr. Nichols said he is sure that is what happens. The citation is issued in a county and generally the fee goes to that county. There were no comments from Department of Transportation representative, Ms. Johanna Reese. Mr. Thomas Caves of NC Department of Crime Control and Public Safety said he would be happy to double check where the fee goes before it comes up in the next committee. Senator Shaw stated the Committee will take it on the advice of a counselor. Senator Phil Berger agreed the fee should be paid where the offence occurs. Staff Attorney Brenda Carter stated she will double check. Senator Brown moved for a favorable report.

The meeting was adjourned.



SENATE BILL 1136: Regulate Towing From Private Lots

2009-2010 General Assembly

Committee: Introduced by:

Senate Transportation

Sen. Rucho

Analysis of:

PCS to First Edition

S1136-CSRW-82

Date:

June 8, 2010

Prepared by: Giles S. Perry

Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: Senate Bill 1136 (PCS) amends State law governing towing from private lots.

[As introduced, this bill was identical to H1866, as introduced by Reps. Carney, K. Alexander, Killian, Earle, which is currently in House Local Government II, if favorable, Finance.]

CURRENT LAW: Under current G.S. 20-219.2, in certain cites and counties, it is unlawful to tow a vehicle from a private parking space or lot unless the space or lot is clearly marked with a 24x24 sign stating that unauthorized parking is prohibited, and providing the name of the lot or space owner. In addition, under general law, based on general police power, cities and counties may regulate towing by ordinance.

BILL ANALYSIS: Senate Bill 1136 amends G.S. 20-219.2, which regulates towing from private lots and is applicable to the certain cites and counties, to:

- provide that the required sign at a private lot include the name and phone number of the towing and storage company.
- prohibits removal of vehicles more than 15 miles from the place of towing.
- limits towing and storage charges to reasonable fess for services rendered, and prohibits charges in excess of what the company charges for the same service elsewhere.
- prohibits towing companies from requiring vehicle owners to sign waivers of rights when retrieving vehicles.
- increases the penalty for the infraction violation to up to \$100.
- extends applicability of G.S. 20-219.2 to Mecklenburg County, and clarifies that it applies to municipalities in the listed counties.
- clarifies that G.S. 20-219.2 does not preempt the general law authority of counties and municipalities to regulate towing by ordinance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act becomes effective October 1, 2010, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

S1136-SMRW-194(CSRW-82) v1

S.B.		1136		
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SESSION LAW	•	•	
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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE REGULATION OF THE TOWING OF VEHICLES FROM PRIVATE LOT IN CERTAIN COUNTIES AND CITIES, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIV. TRANSPORTATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

Introduced by Senator(s)	Rucho Ra Rucho 10 annelly	The state of the s	Jellensey Ewsoner
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SENATE BILL 1136 PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE S1136-CSRW-82 [v.3]

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2009

6/9/2010 9:54:46 AM

Short Title:	Regulate Towing From Private Lots.	•	(Public)
Sponsors:			
Referred to:			
<u></u>			

May 17, 2010

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE REGULATION OF THE TOWING OF VEHICLES FROM PRIVATE LOTS IN CERTAIN COUNTIES AND CITIES, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE TRANSPORTATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 20-219.2 reads as rewritten:

"§ 20-219.2. Removal of unauthorized vehicles from private lots.

- It shall be unlawful for any person other than the owner or lessee of a privately owned or leased parking space to park a motor or other vehicle in such private parking space without the express permission of the owner or lessee of such space; provided, that such if the private parking lot be-is clearly designated as such by a sign no smaller than 24 inches by 24 inches prominently displayed at the entrance thereto thereto, displaying the name and phone number of the towing and storage company, and and, if individually owned or leased, the parking spaces within the lot be-are clearly marked by signs setting forth the name of each individual lessee or owner; owner. a-A vehicle parked in a privately owned parking space in violation of this section may be removed from such space upon the written request of the parking space owner or lessee to a place of storage and the registered owner of such motor vehicle shall become liable for removal and storage charges. Any person who removes a vehicle pursuant to this section shall not be held liable for damages for the removal of the vehicle to the owner, lienholder or other person legally entitled to the possession of the vehicle removed; however, any person who intentionally or negligently damages a vehicle in the removal of such vehicle, or intentionally or negligently inflicts injury upon any person in the removal of such vehicle, may be held liable for damages.
- (a1) Any vehicle removed pursuant to this section shall not be transported for storage more than 15 miles from the place of removal.
- (a2) Any person or company that tows or stores a vehicle subject to this section shall charge reasonable fees for the services rendered, and any fee charged shall not exceed the fee for other service calls the person or company provides for the same service, labor, and conditions.
- (a3) Any person or company that tows or stores a vehicle subject to this section shall not require any person retrieving a vehicle to sign any waiver of rights or other similar document as a condition of the release of their vehicle, other than a form acknowledging release and receipt of the vehicle.



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- Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be only fined not more than ten dollars (\$10.00) one hundred dollars (\$100.00) in the discretion of the court.
- This section shall apply only to the Counties of Craven, Dare, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Mecklenburg, New Hanover, Orange, Richmond, Robeson, Wake, Wilson and municipalities in those counties, and to the Cities of Durham, Jacksonville, Charlotte and Fayetteville.
- (d) The provisions of this section shall not be interpreted to preempt the authority of any county or municipality to enact ordinances regulating towing from private lots, as authorized by general law."
- **SECTION 2.** G.S. 7A-292 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read: "§ 7A-292. Additional powers of magistrates.

In addition to the jurisdiction and powers assigned in this Chapter to the magistrate in civil and criminal actions, each magistrate has the following additional powers:

- (17)To determine if a violation of G.S. 20-219.2 (a2) has occurred.".
- **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2010, and applies to vehicles towed on or after that date.



SENATE BILL 1214: Highway Patrol Motor Carrier Fines and Fees

2009-2010 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Ref to Transportation. If fav, re-ref to Date: June 8, 2010

Finance

Introduced by: Sen. Jenkins Prepared by: Brenda J. Carter

Analysis of: First Edition Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: Senate Bill 1214 would amend various laws pertaining to property-hauling vehicles.

BILL ANALYSIS: Under G. S. 20-96, a law enforcement officer has authority to seize and detain property-hauling vehicles or vehicles regulated by the Motor Carrier Safety Regulation Unit until delinquent fines or penalties and taxes are paid. When necessary, an officer who detains a vehicle may have the vehicle stored, and the owner of the vehicle is responsible for the care of any property being hauled by the vehicle and for any storage charges. Section 2 of the bill would provide that the authority of a law enforcement officer to seize a motor vehicle for delinquent fines and penalties pursuant to G.S. 20-96 is not affected by the statutes of limitations set out in Chapter 1 of the General Statutes.

Under G.S. 20-88, fees are imposed on the annual registration of self-propelled property-hauling vehicles based on the type of vehicle and its weight. For the purpose of licensing, the weight of the vehicle is the empty weight and heaviest load to be transported, as declared by the owner or operator. G.S. 20-118 regulates the weight of vehicles and load for vehicles operating on the highways of the state. Vehicles that violate the weight limitation are subject to a civil penalty in an amount specified in the statute for each weight violation. Certain vehicles that meet all specified conditions are exempt from the weight limitations and penalties. Exemptions apply for certain vehicles including those hauling agricultural crops from farm to market or hauling aggregates from certain distribution yards or State-permitted production sites in counties contiguous to the State border. Section 3 of the bill would add as a condition for being eligible from weight limitations and penalties under G.S. 29-118 a requirement that the property hauling vehicle be registered pursuant to G.S. 20-88 for the maximum weight allowed for the vehicle configuration.

Under G.S. 20-196.6, an entity that is required or desires to have a law enforcement escort provided by the State Highway Patrol for the transport of any oversized load or hazardous shipment must pay a fee to the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety covering the full cost to administer, plan and carry out the escort within this State. The fees are placed in a special Escort Fee Account, and remain in the account until appropriated by the General Assembly. Section 4 of the bill would allow funds in the Escort Fee Account be used to pay actual expenses for escorting vehicles when required by the Department of Transportation. Any unexpended fees could be used by the Highway Patrol to pay for vehicle or equipment maintenance. The bill would also eliminate a requirement that the Department provide quarterly reports to the legislature on the funds in the special account.

Section 5 of the bill would amend the definition of intrastate motor carriers to include vehicles that have a gross combination weight rating (GCWR) or gross vehicle weight (GVW) or gross combination weight (GCW) rating of 26,001 pounds or more, as those terms are defined in Section 1 of the bill.

G.S. 1-15 provides that civil actions can only be commenced within the periods prescribed in Chapter 1 f the General Statutes, after the cause of action has accrued, except where in special cases a different mitation is prescribed by statute. The periods prescribed for the commencement of actions, other than for the recovery of real property, are as set forth in Article 5 of Chapter 1. Section 6 of the bill would add a provision to Chapter 1 of the General Statutes to establish a 3-year time limitation for

Senate Bill 1214

Page 2

commencement of a legal proceeding to collect a civil penalty, civil assessment, or civil fine imposed pursuant to the State's motor vehicle laws.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would become effective July 1, 2010.

NOTE: This bill appears to require certification pursuant to G.S. 120-36.8, which requires that "Every bill and resolution introduced in the General Assembly proposing any change in the law which purports to implement federal law or to be required or necessary for compliance with federal law, or on which is conditioned the receipt of federal funds shall have attached to it at the time of its consideration by the General Assembly a certification prepared by the Research Division, in consultation with the Bill Drafting and Fiscal Research Divisions, identifying the federal law requiring passage of the bill or resolution."

S1214-SMRV-124(e1) v1

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2009

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SENATE BILL 1214

Short Title: Highway Patrol Motor Carrier Fines and Fees. (Public) Sponsors: Senator Jenkins. Referred to: Transportation. May 19, 2010 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO MAKE CORRESPONDING CHANGES TO THE MOTOR VEHICLES LAWS TO COMPLY WITH FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER ENFORCEMENT REGULATIONS AND MAINTAIN FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUNDING FOR THE STATE HIGHWAY PATROL'S MOTOR CARRIER SECTION, TO REQUIRE DECLARED REGISTRATION LICENSE WEIGHT TO BE FOR THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT FOR ALL VEHICLES THAT ARE PROVIDED EXEMPTIONS UNDER G.S. 20-118, AND TO MODIFY THE STATUTE OF LIMITATION FOR CIVIL SUITS RELATED TO UNCOLLECTED CIVIL FINES THAT HAVE BEEN ASSESSED AND REMAIN OWED TO THE STATE CIVIL FINES AND FORFEITURES FUND. The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: SECTION 1. G.S. 20-4.01 reads as rewritten: "§ 20-4.01. Definitions. Unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions apply throughout this Chapter to the defined words and phrases and their cognates: (12b) Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR). - The value specified by the manufacturer as the maximum loaded weight a vehicle is capable of safely hauling. The GVWR of a combination vehicle is the GVWR of the power unit plus the GVWR of the towed unit or units. When a vehicle is determined by an enforcement officer to be structurally altered in any way from the manufacturer's original design in an attempt to increase the hauling capacity of the vehicle, the GVWR of that vehicle shall be deemed to be the greater of the license weight or the total weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles for the purpose of enforcing this Chapter. For the purpose of classification of commercial drivers license and skills testing, the manufacturer's GVWR shall be used. (12c) Gross Combination Weight Rating (GCWR). - Defined in 49 C.F.R. § 390.5. (12d) Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW). - The total weight of a vehicle, including passengers, fuel, cargo, and attachments. (12e) Gross Combined Weight (GCW). - The total weight of a combination (articulated) motor vehicle, including passengers, fuel, cargo, and attachments. (12e)(12f) Hazardous Materials. - Any material that has been designated as hazardous under 49 U.S.C. § 5103 and is required to be placarded under Subpart F of Part 172 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (1



			Session 2007
		or to	per 2007 Edition), or any quantity of a material listed as a select agent xin under Part 73 of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (1 per 2007 Edition). Regulations.
	SEC'	TION 2	. G.S. 20-96 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:
· "(c)			y of a law enforcement officer to seize a motor vehicle pursuant to
	n (a) of	this sec	ction shall not be affected by the statutes of limitation set out in Chapter
			General Statutes."
	SEC	TION 3	. G.S. 20-118(c) reads as rewritten:
"(c) _.	Exce	ptions	The following exceptions apply to G.S. 20-118(b) and 20-118(e).
	(12)		ections (b) and (e) of this section do not apply to a vehicle that meets all
	•		conditions set out below:
		a.	Is hauling agricultural crops from the farm where the crop is grown to any market within 150 miles of that farm.
		b.	Repealed by Session Laws 1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 761, s. 13.
· ·		b1.	Does not operate on an interstate highway or exceed any posted bridge weight limits during transportation or hauling of agricultural
		1	products.
		c.	Does not exceed a single-axle weight of 22,000 pounds, a
			tandem-axle weight of 42,000 pounds, or a gross weight of 90,000
		a	pounds.
		<u>d.</u>	Is registered pursuant to G.S. 20-88 for the maximum weight allowed
			for the vehicle configuration as listed in subsection (b) of this section.
		,	section.
	(14)	Subse	ctions (b) and (e) of this section do not apply to a vehicle that meets all
	(- /)	of the	conditions below, but all other enforcement provisions of this Article
			n applicable:
		a.	Is hauling aggregates from a distribution yard or a State-permitted
	•		production site located within a North Carolina county contiguous to
			the North Carolina State border to a destination in another state
,			adjacent to that county as verified by a weight ticket in the driver's
			possession and available for inspection by enforcement personnel.
	•	b.	Does not operate on an interstate highway or exceed any posted
		_	bridge weight limits.
		C.	Does not exceed 69,850 pounds gross vehicle weight and 53,850
			pounds per axle grouping for tri-axle vehicles. For purposes of this
			subsection, a tri-axle vehicle is a single power unit vehicle with a three consecutive axle group on which the respective distance
			between any two consecutive axles of the group, measured
			longitudinally center to center to the nearest foot, does not exceed
			eight feet. For purposes of this subsection, the tolerance provisions of
			subsection (h) of this section do not apply, and vehicles must be
			licensed in accordance with G.S. 20-88.
		d.	Repealed by Session Laws 2001-47, s. 10, effective December 16,
			2001.
a	•	<u>e.</u> ·	Is registered pursuant to G.S. 20-88 for the maximum weight allowed
			for the vehicle configuration as listed in subsection (b) of this
			section.

- (15) Subsections (b) and (e) of this section do not apply to a vehicle or vehicle combination that meets all of the conditions below, but all other enforcement provisions of this Article remain applicable:
 - Is hauling wood residuals, including wood chips, sawdust, mulch, or tree bark from any site; is hauling raw logs to first market; or is transporting bulk soil, bulk rock, sand, sand rock, or asphalt millings from a site that does not have a certified scale for weighing the vehicle.
 - b. Does not operate on an interstate highway, a posted light-traffic road, except as provided by subdivision (c)(5) of this section, or exceed any posted bridge weight limits.
 - c. Does not exceed a maximum gross weight 4,000 pounds in excess of what is allowed in subsection (b) of this section.
 - d. Does not exceed a single-axle weight of more than 22,000 pounds and a tandem-axle weight of more than 42,000 pounds.
 - e. <u>Is registered pursuant to G.S. 20-88 for the maximum weight allowed for the vehicle configuration as listed in subsection (b) of this section."</u>

SECTION 4. G.S. 20-196.4 reads as rewritten:

"§ 20-196.4. Oversized and hazardous shipment escort fee.

- (a) Every person, firm, corporation, or entity required by the North Carolina Department of Transportation or any federal agency or commission to have a law enforcement escort provided by the State Highway Patrol for the transport of any oversized load or hazardous shipment by road or rail shall pay to the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety a fee covering the full cost to administer, plan, and carry out the escort within this State.
- (b) If the State Highway Patrol provides an escort to accompany the transport of oversized loads or hazardous shipments by road or rail at the request of any person, firm, corporation, or entity that is not required to have a law enforcement escort pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, then the requester shall pay to the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety a fee covering the full cost to administer, plan, and carry out the escort within this State.
- (c) The Department of Crime Control and Public Safety shall comply with the provisions of G.S. 12-3.1(a)(2) when establishing fees to implement this section.
- (d) All fees collected pursuant to this section shall be placed in a special Escort Fee Account and shall remain unencumbered and unexpended until appropriated by the General Assembly be used to pay actual expenses for escorting vehicles when required by the Department of Transportation. If any fees remain unexpended, the State Highway Patrol may use those fees to pay for any vehicle or equipment maintenance that needs to be made before or after an escort occurs to ensure the visibility and safety of the trooper and the motoring public.
- (e) The Department shall report quarterly on the funds in the special account to the Chairs of the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee, to the Chairs of the House of Representatives Appropriations—Subcommittee on Transportation—and the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Department of Transportation, and to the Chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety."

SECTION 5. G.S. 20-376(5) reads as rewritten:

- "(5) Intrastate motor carrier. Any person, firm, or corporation that operates or controls a commercial motor vehicle as defined in G.S. 20 4.01(3d) in intrastate commerce in intrastate commerce when the vehicle:
 - a. <u>Is a vehicle having a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) or gross combination weight rating (GCWR) or gross vehicle weight (GVW)</u>

	General Assembly of N	orth Carolina Session 2009
1		or gross combination weight (GCW) of 26,001 pounds or more,
2		whichever is greater.
3	<u>b.</u>	Is designed or used to transport 16 or more passengers, including the
4		driver.
5	<u>c.</u>	Is used in transporting a hazardous material in a quantity requiring
6		placarding pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Parts 170 through 185."
7	SECTION 6	G.S. 1-52 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:
8		a liability for a civil penalty, civil assessment, or civil fine imposed
9		ant to Chapter 20 of the General Statutes."
10		This act becomes effective July 1, 2010.

AGENDA

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE June 23, 2010 at 11:00 AM Room 1027, Legislative Building

- I. Welcome and Opening Remarks
- II. Bills to be Considered

HB 1734 SB 595 SB 181	DOT Powers and Duties Changes. Pedestrian Safety Improvements. Drivers Licenses Change Expir./8 yrs	Representative Cole Senator Goodall Senator Shaw
	10.63	*

- III. Other Business
- IV. Adjournment

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Transportation	3
- Senate Committee	June 22, 2010
Name of Committee	Date

VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO DEANNE MANGUM

NAME	FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS
Julie Wh	NCMMC
Thomas C. Caves Jr.	NC Dept. of Crine Control & Publi
Care Str/m//	NCGA
Andrew Lynch	NCLM
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David Forell	Vaid black

Senate-Committee

Name of Committee

VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO DEANNE MANGUM

NAME	FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS
Gene Cauchy	XCM
PHIGE WOYSHAM	SOG
THERESA CANALES	HCDOT
Johanna Reese	DOT
Jon Nance	DOT
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MINUTES

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2010 10:00 AM 1027 LEGISLATIVE BUILDING

The Senate Transportation Committee met on June 23, 2010 at 10:00am in 1027 Legislative Building, Raleigh, NC. Senator Larry Shaw, Chair, called the meeting to order, introduced pages, staff and welcomed visitors and Committee members.

Senator Shaw announced HB 1734, DOT Powers and Duties Changes, is before the Committee. Senator Apodaca made motion for approval of the PCS. Representative Cole, Chair of the House Transportation Committee explained the bill. The bill reflects the Department of Transportation's transition from motor to multi-motor department in regards to the officers and such and supports the new 5 year data driven approach to the TIP. The bill also clarifies the turn-pike authority now it is a part of the Department of Transportation, which is most critical to the Bond Funding and Bond Financing that takes place. Section 6 allows the Department to advance project delivery by coordinating with municipalities on the right of way acquisition as it currently does with construction. In the past we had it just for construction, this expands it to right of way. Section 8 removes the reporting requirement as the Department and the Wildlife Resource Commission has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding. Section 9 concerns the disparity study and reflects the study's recommendation. This promotes fairness among the applicants in efforts to continue to give better chances for minority participants in Department of Transportation contracts. The reason for the PCS is one added piece of language. Staff Attorney Brenda Carter explained the added language. The section added to page 2, line 20, section 4(a) authorizes the Department of Transportation to require rights of way to locate distributed antenna systems that is permitted by local zoning. The antenna system is for wi-fi networking for provision of broadband services and allows the department to change the configuration of the system either above or below ground as appropriate. Senator Tillman asked were there any objections from anyone. Representative Cole replied no. Johanna Reese, representative of the Department of Transportation, answered this bill addresses an antiquated zoning requirement. Senator McKissick asked is that the major crust of the bill. Representative Cole answered no; this was brought by a North Mecklenburg Representative and this bill allows municipalities to bury this cable with other cable already allowed under statute. The bill was approved by Committee.

Senator Shaw announced the next bill before the Committee, SB 595, Pedestrian Safety Improvements. Representative Dollar explained SB 595, stating this was a simple provision as cities and towns have taken the lead in improving pedestrian travel. The bill provides that if a municipality in a given situation is willing to fund a pedestrian safety improvement at 100% then the state will be obligated to accept those funds provided that

the Department of Transportation approves the design and installation that gets done to Department of Transportation specifications. The provisions are done on state roads in a municipality. There is no opposition. The bill was approved.

The final bill before the Committee was SB 181, Drivers Licenses Change Expir./8 yrs to 65. Senator Shaw asked Senator Hoyle to take over the meeting for the Chairman. There is no PCS. Senator Shaw is recognized as sponsor to explain the bill. Senator Shaw stated the bill is very simple. The bill was introduced several years ago when the State moved from 4 years to 8 years license renewal. A glitch, some believed it should be beyond 54 years of age; this bill is a technical correction to amends to 65 years of age. A favorable report is found by the Committee.

The meeting was adjourned.



HOUSE BILL 1734: DOT Powers and Duties Changes

2009-2010 General Assembly

Committee:

Senate Transportation

Introduced by: Rep. Cole

Analysis of:

PCS to 3rd Edition

H1734-CSRV-70

Date:

June 23, 2010

Prepared by: Brenda J. Carter

Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: This proposed committee substitute for House Bill 1734 makes several changes to statutes governing the Department of Transportation, as recommended by the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee. It also authorizes the Department to acquire rights of way for the location or relocation of distributed antenna systems.

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S1159, as introduced by Sen. Goss, which is currently in Senate Transportation.]

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 1734 amends statutes governing the Department of Transportation as follows:

Section 1. Repeals a requirement that the Department report annually to the Department of Administration, or to the Governor, on its finances and the physical condition of its buildings, depots, and properties.

Section 2. Corrects terminology in G.S. 136-16.10, replacing the term "Controller" with "Chief Financial Officer".

Sections 3, 5, 6, and 12. Eliminate references to a seven-year period for the Transportation Improvement

Section 4. Clarifies that the Department has authority over all construction, maintenance, and design of transportation projects.

Section 4(a) authorizes the Department to acquire rights of way for the location or relocation of distributed antenna systems (DAS), a network of spatially separated antenna nodes connected to a common source via a transport medium that provides wireless service within a geographic area or structure. The Department would have authority to alter the location or configuration of the systems above or below ground.

Section 6. Provides that the Department may enter into agreements with municipalities, counties, governmental entities, or nonprofit corporations to receive funds for right-of-way acquisition.

Sections 7, 10, and 14. Update references to the North Carolina Turnpike Authority to reflect the transfer of the Authority to the Department.

Section 8. Eliminates a requirement that the Department report annually to the Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture and the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee on the Department's progress in expanding public access to coastal waters.

Section 9. Updates the statute setting out the Department's Disadvantaged Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Businesses Program and extends its sunset from August 31, 2010, to August 31, 2014.

Sections 11 and 13. Transfers the power to make rules and regulations concerning transportation functions assigned to the Department from the Board of Transportation to the Secretary of Transportation or the Secretary's designee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act is effective when it becomes law.

*Giles Perry and Wendy Graf Ray, Staff Attorneys, contributed substantially to this summary. H1734-SMRV-134(H1734-CSRV-70) v1

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA **SESSION 2009**

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HOUSE BILL 1734*

Committee Substitute Favorable 5/27/10 Third Edition Engrossed 6/10/10 PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H1734-CSRV-70 [v.2]

6/23/2010 10:27:49 AM

Sponsors: Referred to:	Short Title:	DOT Powers and Duties Changes.	•	(Public)
Referred to:	Sponsors:			
	Referred to:			

May 17, 2010

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 2 AN ACT TO ELIMINATE A DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REPORT ON THE 3 CONDITION OF ITS BUILDINGS; CORRECT A STATUTORY REFERENCE TO THE 4 TRANSPORTATION'S CHIEF OF FINANCIAL 5 ELIMINATE STATUTORY REFERENCES TO A SEVEN-YEAR TRANSPORTATION 6 IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: CLARIFY THAT THE DEPARTMENT 7 TRANSPORTATION HAS AUTHORITY AND GENERAL SUPERVISION OVER ALL 8 TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS: PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF 9 TRANSPORTATION HAS AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH 10 GOVERNMENTS RECEIVE TO **FUNDS** FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY 11 ACQUISITION; UPDATE STATUTORY REFERENCES TO THE NORTH CAROLINA 12 TURNPIKE AUTHORITY; ELIMINATE A DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REPORT ON ACCESS TO COASTAL WATERS, REVISE THE STATUTES 13 14 GOVERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S DISADVANTAGED 15 MINORITY-OWNED AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES PROGRAM: AND TRANSFER TO THE SECRETARY THE POWER TO PROMULGATE DEPARTMENT 16 17 TRANSPORTATION RULES, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE TRANSPORTATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE; AND PROVIDE 18 19 THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HAS AUTHORITY TO LOCATE 20 AND ACQUIRE RIGHTS-OF-WAY FOR THE PRESENT OR FUTURE RELOCATION 21 OR INITIAL LOCATION OF DISTRIBUTED ANTENNA SYSTEMS (DAS) AS 22 PERMITTED BY LOCAL ZONING. 23

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 136-11 is repealed.

SECTION 2. G.S. 136-16.10 reads as rewritten:

"§ 136-16.10. Allocations by Department Controller-Chief Financial Officer to eliminate overdrafts.

The Controller Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Transportation shall allocate at the beginning of each fiscal year from the various appropriations made to the Department of Transportation for State Construction, State Funds to Match Federal Highway Aid, State Maintenance, and Ferry Operations, sufficient funds to eliminate all overdrafts on State



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maintenance and construction projects, and these allocations shall not be diverted to other purposes."

SECTION 3. G. S. 136-17.2A(d) reads as rewritten:

In each fiscal year, the Department shall, as nearly as practicable, expend in a distribution region an amount equal to that region's tentative percentage share of the funds that are subject to this section and are available for that fiscal year. In any consecutive seven-year Transportation Improvement Plan period, the amount expended in a distribution region must be between ninety percent (90%) and one hundred ten percent (110%) of the sum of the amounts established under this subsection as the target amounts to be expended in the region for those seven years. that period."

SECTION 4. G.S. 136-18(1) reads as rewritten:

"§ 136-18. Powers of Department of Transportation.

The said Department of Transportation is vested with the following powers:

The authority and general supervision over all matters relating to the eonstruction construction, maintenance, and design of the State highways, transportation projects, letting of contracts therefore, and the selection of materials to be used in the construction of State highways transportation projects under the authority of this Chapter.

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SECTION 4(a). G.S. 136-18(2) reads as rewritten:

"§ 136-18. Powers of Department of Transportation.

The said Department of Transportation is vested with the following powers:

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(2) To take over and assume exclusive control for the benefit of the State of anyexisting county or township roads, and to locate and acquire rights-of-way for any new roads that may be necessary for a State highway system, and subject to the provisions of G.S. 136-19.5(a) and (b) also locate and acquire such additional rights-of-way as may be necessary for the present or future relocation or initial location, above or below ground, of telephone, telegraph, distributed antenna systems (DAS) as permitted by local zoning, broadband communications, electric and other lines, as well as gas, water, sewerage, oil and other pipelines, to be operated by public utilities as defined in G.S. 62-3(23) and which are regulated under Chapter 62 of the General Statutes, or by municipalities, counties, any entity created by one or more political subdivisions for the purpose of supplying any such utility services, electric membership corporations, telephone membership corporations, or any combination thereof, with full power to widen, relocate, change or alter the grade or location thereof thereof, or alter the location or configuration of such lines or systems above or below ground, and to change or relocate any existing roads that the Department of Transportation may now own or may acquire; to acquire by gift, purchase, or otherwise, any road or highway, or tract of land or other property whatsoever that may be necessary for a State transportation system and adjacent utility rights-of-way? Provided, all changes or alterations authorized by this subdivision shall be subject to the provisions of G.S. 136-54 to 136-63, to the extent that said sections are applicable: Provided, that nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to authorize or permit the Department of Transportation to allow or pay anything to any county, township, city or town, or to any board of commissioners or governing body thereof, for any existing road or part of any road heretofore constructed by any such county, township, city or town,

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unless a contract has already been entered into with the Department of Transportation.

SECTION 5. G.S. 136-18(12b) reads as rewritten:

"§ 136-18. Powers of Department of Transportation.

The said Department of Transportation is vested with the following powers:

(12b)To issue "GARVEE" bonds (Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicles) or other eligible debt-financing instruments to finance federal-aid highway projects using federal funds to pay a portion of principal, interest, and related bond issuance costs, as authorized by 23 U.S.C. § 122, as amended (the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-59). These bonds shall be issued by the State Treasurer on behalf of the Department and shall be issued pursuant to an order adopted by the Council of State under G.S. 159-88. The State Treasurer shall develop and adopt appropriate debt instruments, consistent with the terms of the State and Local Government Revenue Bond Act, Article 5 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes, for use under this subdivision. Prior to issuance of any "GARVEE" or other eligible debt instrument using federal funds to pay a portion of principal, interest, and related bond issuance costs, the State Treasurer shall determine (i) that the total outstanding principal of such debt does not exceed the total amount of federal transportation funds authorized to the State in the prior federal fiscal year; or (ii) that the maximum annual principal and interest of such debt does not exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the expected average annual federal revenue shown for the seven-year-period in the most recently adopted Transportation Improvement Program. Notes issued under the provisions of this subdivision may not be deemed to constitute a debt or liability of the State or of any political subdivision thereof, or a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State or of any political subdivision thereof, but shall be payable solely from the funds and revenues pledged therefor. All the notes shall contain on their face a statement to the effect that the State of North Carolina shall not be obligated to pay the principal or the interest on the notes, except from the federal transportation fund revenues as shall be provided by the documents governing the revenue note issuance, and that neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the State of North Carolina or of any of its political subdivisions is pledged to the payment of the principal or interest on the notes. The issuance of notes under this Part shall not directly or indirectly or contingently obligate the State or any of its political subdivisions to levy or to pledge any form of taxation whatever or to make any appropriation for their payment.

SECTION 6. G.S. 136-18(38) reads as rewritten:

"§ 136-18. Powers of Department of Transportation.

The said Department of Transportation is vested with the following powers:

(38)To enter into agreements with municipalities, counties, governmental entities, or nonprofit corporations to receive funds for the purposes of advancing right-of-way acquisition or the construction schedule of a project identified in the Transportation Improvement Program. If these funds are subject to repayment by the Department, prior to receipt of funds, reimbursement of all funds received by the Department shall be shown in the

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existing Transportation Improvement Program and shall be reimbursed within seven years of receipt. the period of the existing Transportation Improvement Program.

SECTION 7. G.S. 136-18(39) reads as rewritten:

"§ 136-18. Powers of Department of Transportation.

The said Department of Transportation is vested with the following powers:

(39)To enter into partnership agreements with the North Carolina Turnpike Authority, private entities, and authorized political subdivisions to finance, by tolls, contracts, and other financing methods authorized by law, the cost of acquiring, constructing, equipping, maintaining, and operating transportation infrastructure in this State, and to plan, design, develop, acquire, construct, equip, maintain, and operate transportation infrastructure in this State. An agreement entered into under this subdivision requires the concurrence of the Board of Transportation. The Department shall report to the Chairs of the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee, the Chairs of the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, and the Chairs of the Senate Appropriations Committee on the Department of Transportation, at the same time it notifies the Board of Transportation of any proposed agreement under this subdivision. Any contracts for construction of highways, roads, streets, and bridges which are awarded pursuant to an agreement entered into under this section shall comply with the competitive bidding requirements of Article 2 of this Chapter.

SECTION 8. G.S. 136-18(40) reads as rewritten:

"§ 136-18. Powers of Department of Transportation.

The said Department of Transportation is vested with the following powers:

(40)To expand public access to coastal waters in its road project planning and construction programs. The Department shall work with the Wildlife Resources Commission, other State agencies, and other government entities to address public access to coastal waters along the roadways, bridges, and other transportation infrastructure owned or maintained by the Department. The Department shall adhere to all applicable design standards and guidelines in implementation of this enhanced access. The Department shall report on its progress in expanding public access to coastal waters to the Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture and to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Commission no later than March 1-of each year.

SECTION 9. G.S. 136-28.4 reads as rewritten:

"§ 136-28.4. State policy concerning participation by disadvantaged minority-owned and women-owned businesses in highway transportation contracts.

It is the policy of this State, based on a compelling governmental interest, to encourage and promote participation by disadvantaged minority-owned and women-owned businesses in contracts let by the Department pursuant to this Chapter for the planning, design, preconstruction, construction, alteration, or maintenance of State highways, roads, streets, or bridges transportation infrastructure and in the procurement of materials for these projects. All State agencies, institutions, and political subdivisions shall cooperate with the Department of

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Transportation and among themselves in all efforts to conduct outreach and to encourage and promote the use of disadvantaged minority-owned and women-owned businesses in these contracts.

- At least every five years, the Department shall conduct a study on the availability and utilization of disadvantaged minority-owned and women-owned business enterprises and examine relevant evidence of the effects of race-based or gender-based discrimination upon the utilization of such business enterprises in contracts for planning, design, preconstruction, construction, alteration, or maintenance of State highways, roads, streets, or bridges transportation infrastructure and in the procurement of materials for these projects. Should the study show a strong basis in evidence of ongoing effects of past or present discrimination that prevents or limits disadvantaged minority-owned and women-owned businesses from participating in the above contracts at a level which would have existed absent such discrimination, such evidence shall constitute a basis for the State's continued compelling governmental interest in remedying such race and gender discrimination in highway transportation contracting. Under such circumstances, the Department shall, in conformity with State and federal law, adopt by rule and contract provisions a specific program to remedy such discrimination. This specific program shall, to the extent reasonably practicable, address each barrier identified in such study that adversely affects contract participation by disadvantaged minority-owned and women-owned businesses.
- Based upon the findings of the Department's Second-Generation Disparity Study completed in 2004, 2009 study entitled "Measuring Business Opportunity: A Disparity Study of NCDOT's State and Federal Programs" hereinafter referred to as "Study", the program design shall, to the extent reasonably practicable, incorporate narrowly tailored remedies identified in the Study, and the Department shall implement a comprehensive antidiscrimination enforcement policy. As appropriate, the program design shall be modified by rules adopted by the Department that are consistent with findings made in the Study and in subsequent studies conducted in accordance with subsection (b) of this section. As part of this program, the Department shall review its budget and establish annual aspirational goals every three years, not mandatory goals, in percentages, for the overall participation in contracts by disadvantaged minority-owned and women-owned businesses. These annual aspirational goals for disadvantaged minority-owned and women-owned businesses shall be established consistent with federal methodology specified in the Study, methodology, and they shall not be applied rigidly on specific contracts or projects. Instead, the Department shall establish contract-specific goals or project-specific goals for the participation of such firms in a manner consistent with availability of disadvantaged minority-owned and women-owned businesses, as appropriately defined by its most recent Study, for each disadvantaged minority-owned and women-owned business category that has demonstrated significant disparity in contract utilization. Nothing in this section shall authorize the use of quotas. Any program implemented as a result of the Study conducted in accordance with this section shall be narrowly tailored to eliminate the effects of historical and continuing discrimination and its impacts on such disadvantaged minority-owned and women-owned businesses without any undue burden on other contractors. The Department shall give equal opportunity for contracts it lets without regard to race, religion, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, or handicapping condition, as defined in G.S. 168A-3, to all contractors and businesses otherwise qualified.
 - (c) The following definitions apply in this section:
 - (1) "Disadvantaged business Business" has the same meaning as "disadvantaged business enterprise" in 49 C.F.R. § 26.5 Subpart A or any subsequently promulgated replacement regulation.
 - (2) "Minority" includes only those racial or ethnicity classifications identified by a study conducted in accordance with this section that have been subjected to

discrimination in the relevant marketplace and that have been adversely affected in their ability to obtain contracts with the Department.

(3) "Women" means nonminority persons born of the female sex.

- (d) The Department shall report semiannually annually to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee on the utilization of disadvantaged minority-owned businesses and women-owned businesses and any program adopted to promote contracting opportunities for those businesses. Following each study of availability and utilization, the Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee on the results of the study for the purpose of determining whether the provisions of this section should continue in force and effect.
 - (e) This section expires August 31, 2010 2014." **SECTION 10.** G.S. 136-89.189 reads as rewritten:

"§ 136-89.189. Turnpike Authority revenue bonds.

The Authority shall be a municipality for purposes of Article 5 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes, the State and Local Government Revenue Bond Act, and may issue revenue bonds pursuant to that Act to pay all or a portion of the cost of a Turnpike Project or to refund any previously issued bonds. In connection with the issuance of revenue bonds, the Authority shall have all powers of a municipality under the State and Local Government Revenue Bond Act, and revenue bonds issued by the Authority shall be entitled to the protection of all provisions of the State and Local Government Revenue Bond Act.

Except as provided in this section, the provisions of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes, the Local Government Finance Act, apply to revenue bonds issued by the Turnpike Authority.

- (1) The term of a lease between the Turnpike Authority and the Department executed prior to July 27, 2009, for all or any part of a Turnpike Project may exceed 40 years, as agreed by the Authority and the Department.
- (2) The maturity date of a refunding bond may extend to the earlier of the following:
 - a. Forty years from the date of issuance of the refunding bond.
 - b. The date the Turnpike Authority determines is the maturity date required for the Turnpike Project funded with the refunding bonds to generate sufficient revenues to retire the refunding bonds and any other outstanding indebtedness issued for that Project. The Authority's determination of the appropriate maturity date is conclusive and binding. In making its determination, the Authority may take into account appropriate financing terms and conventions."

SECTION 11. G.S. 143B-348 reads as rewritten:

"§ 143B-348. Department of Transportation – head; rules, regulations, etc., of Board of Transportation.

The Secretary of Transportation shall be the head of the Department of Transportation. He shall carry out the day-to-day operations of the Department and shall be responsible for carrying out the policies, programs, priorities, and projects approved by the Board of Transportation. He shall be responsible for all other transportation matters assigned to the Department of Transportation, except those reserved to the Board of Transportation by statute. Except as otherwise provided for by statute, the Secretary shall have all the powers and duties as provided for in Article 1 of Chapter 143B including the responsibility for all management functions for the Department of Transportation. The Secretary shall be vested with authority to adopt design criteria, construction specifications, and standards as required for the Department of Transportation to construct and maintain highways, bridges, and ferries. The Secretary or the Secretary's designee shall be vested with authority to promulgate rules and regulations concerning all transportation functions assigned to the Department.

 All rules, regulations, ordinances, specifications, standards, and criteria adopted by the Board of Transportation and in effect on July 1, 1977, shall continue in effect until changed by the Board of Transportation or the Secretary of Transportation. The Secretary shall have complete authority to modify any of these matters existing on July 1, 1977, except as specifically restricted by the Board. Whenever any such criteria, rule, regulation, ordinance, specification, or standards are continued in effect under this section and the words "Board of Transportation" are used, the words shall mean the "Department of Transportation" unless the context makes such meaning inapplicable. All actions pending in court by or against the Board of Transportation may continue to be prosecuted in that name without the necessity of formally amending the name to the Department of Transportation."

SECTION 12. G.S. 143B-350(f)(4) reads as rewritten:

- "(f) Duties of the Board. The Board of Transportation has the following duties and powers:
 - (4) To approve a schedule of all major transportation improvement projects and their anticipated cost for a period of seven years into the future. cost. This schedule is designated the Transportation Improvement Program; it must be published and copies must be available for distribution. The document that contains the Transportation Improvement Program, or a separate document that is published at the same time as the Transportation Improvement Program, must include the anticipated funding sources for the improvement projects included in the Program, a list of any changes made from the previous year's Program, and the reasons for the changes.

SECTION 13. G.S. 143B-350(f)(13) is repealed. **SECTION 14.** G.S. 159-81(1) reads as rewritten: "§ 159-81. Definitions.

The words and phrases defined in this section shall have the meanings indicated when used in this Article:

(1) "Municipality" means a county, city, town, incorporated village, sanitary district, metropolitan sewerage district, metropolitan water district, county water and sewer district, water and sewer authority, hospital authority, hospital district, parking authority, special airport district, special district created under Article 43 of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes, regional public transportation authority, regional transportation authority, regional natural gas district, regional sports authority, airport authority, joint agency created pursuant to Part 1 of Article 20 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes, a joint agency authorized by agreement between two cities to operate an airport pursuant to G.S. 63-56, and the North Carolina Turnpike Authority ereated pursuant to described in Article 6H of Chapter 136 of the General Statutes, Statutes and transferred to the Department of Transportation pursuant to G.S. 136-89.182(b), but not any other forms of State or local government.

SECTION 15. This act is effective when it becomes law.



SENATE BILL 595: **Pedestrian Safety Improvements**

2009-2010 General Assembly

Committee:

Senate Transportation

Date:

June 22, 2010

Introduced by: Sen. Goodall Analysis of:

Fifth Edition

Prepared by: Brenda J. Carter

Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: Senate Bill is referred to the Senate Transportation Committee on the question of concurrence in the House Committee Substitute. As introduced, the bill had to do with advance directives on drivers licenses. The current edition of the bill would require the Department of Transportation to accept and use any funding provided by a municipal government for a pedestrian safety improvement project on a state road within the city limits, as long as the municipality funds 100% of the project and DOT retains the right to approve the design and oversee the construction, erection, or installation of the improvement.

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 136-66.3 authorizes, but does not require, DOT to use municipal funds on highway improvements.

BILL ANALYSIS: Senate Bill 595 would require DOT to accept and use any funding a municipal government provides for a pedestrian safety improvement project within the municipality's limits, with two conditions:

- 1. That the municipality funds 100% of the project.
- 2. That DOT retains the right to approve the design and oversee the construction, erection, or installation of the improvement.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would become effective July 1, 2010.

Bill Gilkeson, counsel to House Judiciary I, substantially contributed to this summary. S595-SMRV-133(e5) v1

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2009

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SENATE BILL 595

Health Care Committee Substitute Adopted 5/13/09
Third Edition Engrossed 5/14/09
House Committee Substitute Favorable 6/4/09
House Committee Substitute #2 Favorable 6/15/10

	Short Title: Pedestrian Safety Improvements. (Public)
•	Sponsors:
	Referred to:
•	March 16, 2009
1	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2	AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ACCEPT AND
3	USE MUNICIPAL FUNDING FOR PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS ON
4	STATE ROADS WITHIN MUNICIPAL LIMITS.
5	The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
6	SECTION 1. G.S. 136-66.3 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:
7	"(c4) Pedestrian Safety Improvements The Department of Transportation shall accept
8	and use any funding provided by a municipal government for a pedestrian safety improvement
9	project on a State road within the municipality's limits, provided the municipality funds one
10	hundred percent (100%) of the project and the Department of Transportation retains the right to
11	approve the design and oversee the construction, erection, or installation of the pedestrian
12	safety improvement."
13	SECTION 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2010





SENATE BILL 181: **Drivers Licenses Change Expir./8 yrs to 65**

2009-2010 General Assembly

Committee:

Senate Transportation

Introduced by:

Sen. Shaw

Analysis of:

S181-CSRV-69

PCS to First Edition

Date:

June 22, 2010

Prepared by: Brenda J. Carter

Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: Senate Bill 181 would increase the age cap for persons eligible to be issued an eightyear drivers license, raising the age cap from 54 to 65 years of age. The proposed committee substitute corrects the effective date.

CURRENT LAW: Under current law, a drivers license issued to a person at least 18 years old but less than 54 years old expires on the birthday of the license in the eighth year after issuance. A drivers license issued to a person who is 54 or older expires in the fifth year after issuance.

BILL ANALYSIS: Senate Bill 181 would increase the age limit for persons eligible to be issued an eight-year drivers license, raising the age limit from 54 to 65. A license issued to a driver 65 or older would be valid for 5 years.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would become effective January 1, 2001 and apply to any drivers license issued on or after that date.

S181-SMRV-132(e1) v1

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2009

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drivers license issued on or after that date.

SENATE BILL 181

Short Title: Drivers Licenses Change Expir./8 yrs to 65. (Public) Sponsors: Senator Shaw. Referred to: Commerce. February 17, 2009 1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 2 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE AGE CAP OF PERSONS RECEIVING AN EIGHT-YEAR 3 DRIVERS LICENSE FROM FIFTY-FOUR YEARS OF AGE TO SIXTY-FIVE YEARS 4 OF AGE. 5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: 6 SECTION 1. G.S. 20-7(f)(2) reads as rewritten: Duration of original license for persons at least 18 years of age or older. - A 7 drivers license issued to a person at least 18 years old but less than 54-65 8 9 years old expires on the birthday of the licensee in the eighth year after issuance. A drivers license issued to a person at least 54-65 years old expires 10 on the birthday of the licensee in the fifth year after issuance. A commercial 11 12 drivers license that has a vehicles carrying passengers (P) and school bus (S) endorsement issued pursuant to G.S. 20-37.16 shall expire on the birth date 13 of the licensee three years after the date of issuance, if the licensee is 14 15 certified to drive a school bus in North Carolina." 16 SECTION 2. G.S. 20-7(f)(2a) reads as rewritten: Duration of renewed licenses. - A renewed drivers license that was issued 17 by the Division to a person at least 18 years old but less than 54-65 years old 18 19 expires eight years after the expiration date of the license that is renewed. A 20 renewed drivers license that was issued by the Division to a person at least 21 54-65 years old expires five years after the expiration date of the license that 22 is renewed." 23 SECTION 3. This act becomes effective January 1, 2010, and applies to any



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AGENDA

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE June 24, 2010 IMMEDIATELY AFTER SESSION Room 1027, Legislative Building

- I. Welcome and Opening Remarks
- II. Bills to be Considered

HB 1729 Motor Vehicles Law Changes

Representative Cole

- III. Other Business
- IV. Adjournment

VISITOR REGISTRATION SHEET

Senate Transportation Committee

June 24, 2010

Name of Committee

Date ·

<u>VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE</u> <u>CLERK</u>

NAME	FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS
Ardis Watkius	SEDNC
Drug Williams	RANC- Tay Aprile
Carl Dean	OSP
Gen Causby	Nema
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Alsem Valaini	Nu
Patrick Bulkin	MEREC
Johanna Reese	DOT
<u>Katuryn Westzott</u>	ACEC/NC.
Paul Stermon	NCFB
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VISITOR REGISTRATION SHEET

Senate Transportation Committee	June 24, 2010	
Name of Committee	Date	

<u>VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE</u> <u>CLERK</u>

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MINUTES

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 24, 2010 Immediately After Session 1027 Legislative Building

Sen. Shaw called meeting to order.

Rep. Cole was called to explain HB 1729, Motor Vehicles Law Changes. The biggest issue relatively speaking is the change to the transporter plate. The dealer can lose their license for misuse of the transporter plate. There are provisions that will assist others as we tweak legislation. The amendment amends two provisions that have the same definition in regards to miles being driven. Senator Brown excuses himself from debate. Motion approves PCS to be brought forth before the Committee. Representative Cole eliminates \$1 mail-in registration fee which is attached to whatever the cost of the plate is. Most people do not notice the additional fee, resulting in back and forth mails. More importantly, the eliminated fee saves a lot of time for the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Senator Dickson moves to amend the PCS on page 6, line 28 by deleting 10 miles and substituting 20 miles. Senator Dickson explained the amendment makes it consistent with language of the bill. Representative Cole stated in certain cases the additional mileage allows for the vehicle's system to reset itself after service. Before the amendment, the language stated independent repair shop has 10 miles and the factory dealers have 20 miles. The amendment was approved.

Senator Apodaca stated he had a mechanic to call to ask will they be able to have a transporter plate. Representative Cole replied yes and just for further information, over half of our counties do not require a business license. Senator Goss asked was the intent of the bill to add other specialty plates. Representative Cole answered no, this further clarifies the one (the plate) that is already there. Senator Goss asked was there a moratorium on specialty plates. Representative Cole replied yes, some plates are not recognizable as North Carolina plates anymore because of the difference in color.

Senator McKissick stated there were a couple of provisions in the PCS about which he was concerned. McKissick stated on page 4 of the PCS, it looks like we are changing parking on highway shoulders and changing the duration of intersection. Additionally, Bladen County seems to be replacing the out of state contractor with state employees. McKissick asked why we are doing these things. Johanna Reese, representative of the Department of Transportation responded the section regarding Bladen County was pertaining to a call center. This section serves as a clarification of legislation passed last year in which the language was not quite right. The contractor is out of state answering phone calls. There is an existing call center in North Carolina in Bladen Center and this

serves to bring those jobs back to North Carolina and to be able to answer calls all in the same place. Senator McKissick asked if there were any penalties in terminating contract. Ms. Reese responded no, the attorneys have worked through all of that.

Senator McKissick asked about parking on highway shoulders and red light cameras sections of the PCS. Representative Cole replied in regards to the interval for the caution light, the PCS makes the interval uniformed to whatever is the standard. This is so that you cannot change the interval to make it quicker to snap pictures and give people tickets. Senator McKissick stated he was concerned about giving people the benefit of the caution light period and not trying to ticket them if they are going through the caution light. Representative Cole replied that is exactly what this is, for caution lights to remain at that constant interval.

Senator McKissick asked to know the issue in parking on shoulders of highways. Representative Cole replied people from time to time will abandon vehicles on sides of bridges and highways creating safety hazards. This says people cannot do that; the vehicles have to be removed. Senator McKissick asked were Sections 13, 14, and 15 addressing the same issue. Ms. Reese addressed the Committee to state the yellow light interval is the existing statute and that is not being changed. There is a technical change to the name of the professional manual, referencing the name used nationwide for arriving traffic standards. In regards to parking on side of road, the PCS offers clarification of confusing language in the statute. The confusion concerns the difference of being in city limits or out of city limits; the language changes to help with that clarification. Senator McKissick asked is the standard the same within or out of city limits. Ms. Reese answered a driver does not have to know if the driver is within or without city limits.

Senator McKissick asked in regards to the move over law provision, if he is a utility company and he is trying to get power reestablished in relation to an unplanned event, he has to wonder why we are ticketing those folks who do not move over to another lane. Ms. Reese replied the language was requested by utility companies. Senator McKissick asked are we trying to get an exclusion for the utility companies because he read the summary as we need to include them as regular motorists on the road. Ms. Reese answered no; it is the drivers that have to move over for the utility companies. If they are on the side of the road repairing something, drivers have to move over. Senator Vaughn stated the move over law is a nightmare; does this carry insurance points? Ms. Reese replied she did not know. Staff Attorney Brenda Carter stated she can find out for him. Senator Vaughn asked would this provision be treated the same as moving over for an emergency vehicle. Representative Cole stated he could give a partial response. Cole has talked with people in utility company and asked them to get with the Department of Transportation to develop language to be posted on the back of the trucks to say move over it's the law. Senator Vaughn stated his question concerns the point system, so before this goes forth he wanted it to be looked int. Senator Shaw replied Staff will look into it and get that answer to Senator Vaughn. Senator McKissick stated if people are required to move over, the trucks need to have some sort of flashing light. Ms. Reese replied language is in place that says the light must be operating and be amber in color.

Senator Vaughn stated the problem is they are using this to establish probable cause to pull over people. The PCS was approved.

Meeting adjourned.



HOUSE BILL 1729: **Motor Vehicles Law Changes**

2009-2010 General Assembly

Committee:

Senate Ref to Transportation. If fav, re-ref to Date:

June 23, 2010

Finance

H1729-CSRV-71

Introduced by: Rep. Cole Analysis of:

Prepared by: Brenda J. Carter

Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: House Bill 1729 makes various changes to the State's motor vehicle laws.

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S1132, as introduced by Sen. Goss, which is currently in Senate Ref to Transportation. If fav, re-ref to Finance.]

BILL ANALYSIS:

5-year CDL expiration date

Section 1 of the bill changes the expiration date of a commercial drivers license (CDL) to the birth date of the licensee in the fifth year after issuance.

Special registration plates on certain property-hauling vehicles

Section 2 of the bill specifies that special registration plates issued to vehicles 7,000 lbs. to 26,000 lbs. are not required to include the word "weighted".

License plate covers

Section 3 of the bill provides that any operator of a motor vehicle who covers any registration number, registration letter, or the State name on a registration plate, number on a year sticker, or number on a month sticker with any frame or transparent clear or color-tinted cover that makes the registration numbers, registration letters, the State name, or the numbers on the stickers illegible commits an infraction.

Repeal emergency use of registration plates

Section 4 of the bill repeals G.S. 20-64.2, which authorizes the DMV Commissioner to allow emergency use of a registration plate on another vehicle when the vehicle for which it was originally issued is being repaired.

Text of repealed G.S 20-64.2:

§ 20-64.2. Permit for emergency use of registration plate.

The Commissioner may, if in his opinion it is equitable, grant to the licensee a special permit for the use of a registration plate on a vehicle other than the vehicle for which the plate was issued, when the vehicle for which such plate was issued is undergoing repairs in a regular repair shop or garage.

Application for such permit shall be made on forms provided by the Division and must show, in addition to such other information as may be required by the Commissioner, that an emergency exists which would warrant the issuance of such permit.

Such permit shall be evidenced by a certificate issued by the Commissioner and which shall show the time of issuance, the person to whom issued, the motor number, serial number or identification number of the vehicle on which such plate is to be used and shall be in the immediate possession of the person operating such vehicle at all times while operating the same. And such certificate shall be valid only so long as the vehicle for which the registration plate has been issued shall remain in the repair shop or garage but not to exceed a period of 20 days from its issuance. The person to whom the permit provided in this section is issued shall be liable for any additional license fees or penalties that might accrue by reason of the provisions of G.S. 20-86 and 20-96 of the General Statutes. (1957, c. 402; 1975, c. 716, s. 5.)

Dealer plate changes

Section 5 of the bill makes the following changes to State law governing dealer plates:

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- increases the number of plates that may be issued to most dealers by 2, and increases the cap for larger dealers to no more than 5 times the average number of qualifying sales representatives employed by the dealer. The current fee for a dealer license plate is \$28 for each of the first five plates issued to the same dealer and \$14 for each additional dealer license plate issued to the same dealer.
- authorizes specified employees to operate vehicles with dealer plates and dealer transporter plates.
- Increases the dealer license plate sanctions as follows: increases the penalty imposed on individual driving a vehicle from \$50 to \$100, increases the penalty imposed on the dealer from \$200 to \$250.

Transporter plate changes

Section 6 of the bill makes the following changes to State law governing issuance of transporter plates:

- clarifies who can obtain a transporter plate: a business or dealer licensed under the Motor Vehicle Dealers and Manufacturers Licensing Law requiring the limited operation of a motor vehicle for the listed purposes.
- requires a business using a transporter plate for repossession to have proof of garage liability insurance, and limits issuance to a financial institution that is the recorded lien holder.
- authorizes transporter plate in order to pick up and deliver a vehicle that is to be repaired, is to undergo a safety or emissions inspection, or is to be prepared for sale, to road-test the vehicle, if it is repaired or inspected within a 20-mile radius of the place it is repaired or inspected, and to deliver the vehicle to the dealer. Also limits who may perform the road test. Transporter plates issued to a repair facility are limited to two transporter plates for each business.
- limits issuance of transporter plate to move a motor vehicle that is owned by the business and is a replaced vehicle offered for sale, to a business that has 10 or more registered vehicles.
- limits issuance of transporter plates to move vehicles to and from an auction, to licensed dealers or to a business contracted by the dealer to deliver vehicles to or from an auction. Any business contracted by the dealer must have a privilege license & financial responsibility.
- requires applicants for a transporter plate for use in road testing a repaired truck to show proof of garage liability insurance.
- authorizes use of transporter plate to move a newly manufactured travel trailer, fifth-wheel
 trailer, or camping trailer between a manufacturer and a dealer, but the transporter plate may not
 be used on the power unit. (Current law authorizes use of a transporter plate to move a mobile
 office, a mobile classroom, or a mobile or manufactured home.)
- authorizes use of a transporter plate to transport a vehicle at least 35 years old to and from a
 parade or another public event, if the vehicle is titled in this State, and has proof of insurance.
 (Current law requires a transporter plate to transport a vehicle at least 25 years old.)
- Restricts the authorized use of transporter plates to move a vehicle that is part of dealer inventory
 to and from a vehicle trade show or parade in which it is used. Issuance of the plate is limited to
 licensed dealers.
- provides that the total number of dealer transporter or dealer plates issued to a dealer may not exceed the total number of plates that can be issued under G.S. 20-79(b).

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- amends the transporter plate sanctions to provide that they apply to violations of the section's requirements for financial responsibility; increases the infraction penalties imposed on individual driving a vehicle from \$50 to \$100; increases the infraction penalty imposed on the person, dealer, or business to whom plate is issued from \$200 per occurrence to \$250 per occurrence; requires DMV to rescind dealer or transporter plates for violations, and makes unlawful sale or rental of a transporter plate a Class I Felony.
- authorizes a law enforcement officer having probable cause to believe that a transporter plate is being used in violation of this section to seize the plate.
- authorizes staggered issuance of transporter plates.
- requires DMV to rescind a transporter plate or dealer transporter plate that is displayed on a motor vehicle for a purpose that is not authorized.
- requires any vehicle being operated on the highways of the State using a transporter plate to have liability insurance.

Free special plate clarification/Fee for special plate on property-hauling vehicle

Section 7 of the bill clarifies that recipients of the Legion of Valor, 100% Disabled Veteran, and Ex-Prisoner of War may receive one *special* registration plate free of charge. The bill, however, requires recipients of the above plates for use on a vehicle with a registered weight of greater than 6, 000 pounds, to pay the registration fees assessed in G.S. 20-88. Currently, DMV is not charging a registration fee for the initial plate for a vehicle with a registered weight of 6,000 pounds or less.

Repeal \$1 mail-in registration renewal fee

Section 8 of the bill repeals the postage and handling fee of \$1 for mail-in registration renewal.

Amend separate registration for logging trucks

Section 9 of the bill amends the DMV's requirement for separately registering logging vehicles to help the IRS identify these vehicles as logging vehicles and, therefore, subject to a reduced federal highway use tax. The IRS imposes a highway use tax on motor vehicles over a certain weight. The tax rate for vehicles weighing at least 55,000 pounds, but not over 75,000 pounds is \$100 per year plus \$22 for each 1,000 pounds in excess of 55,000 pounds. The tax rate for vehicles over 75,000 pounds is \$550. The tax rate is reduced by 25% if the motor vehicle is used exclusively for logging. The term "logging" is defined as the harvesting of timber and transportation from a forested site to places of sale. (Added in House Finance, earlier version of HB 1729 repealed the statute)

Light-traffic road limitations

Section 10 of the bill amends the light-traffic road limitations to state that a vehicle's point of origin will be treated as a light-traffic road if the point of origin is a non light-traffic road and that road is blocked by light-traffic roads from all directions and is not contiguous with other non light-traffic roads. Exempts from the weight and penalty limitations the following: vehicles hauling animal waste products from the animal waste storage site to a farm or field. Adds clarifying language to the exemption for livestock or poultry transported from their point of origins to a processing plant.)

Incident Management Assistance Patrol use of red lights

Section 11 of the bill authorizes use of red lights on Incident Management Assistance Patrol vehicles operated by DOT.

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Extend move-over law to electric utility restoration vehicles

Section 12 of the bill extends the "move-over" when passing a parked emergency vehicle law so that it applies to vehicles being used to restore electric utility service due to an unplanned event.

Parking on highway and highway shoulder changes

Section 13 of the bill changes the current prohibition on parking on the paved or main traveled portion of a highway or highway bridge outside municipalities to a prohibition on parking on the main traveled portion of all highways with a speed limit posted less than 45 miles per hour.

Section 14 of the bill prohibits parking upon the paved or main-traveled portion of any highway or highway bridge with the speed limit posted 45 miles per hour or greater.

Section 15 of the bill expands the current prohibition on parking on the shoulder of a highway outside municipalities to all highways, both in and outside of municipalities.

Transporter plate misuse grounds for revoking motor vehicle dealer license.

Section 16 of the bill specifies that misuse of transporter plates is grounds for revoking a motor vehicle dealer license.

Yellow light duration at red light camera intersections

Sections 17, 18, and 19 of the bill amend the red light camera laws to change the standard to be used to determine the duration of a yellow light at red light camera intersections from the yellow light duration specified in the DOT Signals and Geometrics Section Design Manual to the duration in the traffic signal plan of record signed and sealed by a licensed professional engineer, and in compliance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Removal of abandoned vehicles on streets

Section 20 of the bill changes the statute that authorizes municipalities to prohibit the abandonment of motor vehicles on public streets and on private property. This section would allow the removal and disposal of abandoned vehicles left on a public street at any time, if the motor vehicle is determined to be a hazard to the motoring public. Current law requires removal only if the vehicles has been left for longer than seven days.

Inspection Program Call Center

Section 21 of the bill amends the language in S.L. 2009-451, as added by S.L. 2009-575 concerning the replacement of out-of-state contractors with State employees at an existing call center in Bladen County.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Sections 21 and 22 of this act are effective when the act becomes law. The remainder of the act becomes effective December 1, 2010, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

Staff Attorneys Giles Perry and Martha Walston substantially contributed to this summary. H1729-SMRV-135(H1729-CSRV-71) v1

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2009

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HOUSE BILL 1729*

Committee Substitute Favorable 5/27/10
Committee Substitute #2 Favorable 6/9/10
Committee Substitute #3 Favorable 6/16/10
PROPOSED SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H1729-CSRV-71 [v.1]

6/23/2010 4:21:48 PM

Short Title: Motor Vehicles Law Changes. (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

May 17, 2010

ABIEL TO BE ENTITLED T

AN ACT TO SPECIFY THE DATE OF EXPIRATION OF A COMMERCIAL DRIVERS LICENSE; CLARIFY THE WORDING OF A SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE ON A VEHICLE OVER SIX THOUSAND POUNDS; PROHIBIT SPECIFIED LICENSE PLATE COVERS; REPEAL AUTHORIZATION FOR EMERGENCY USE OF REGISTRATION PLATES; MAKE CHANGES TO THE LAW GOVERNING DEALER PLATES AND TRANSPORTER PLATES; CLARIFY ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN FREE LICENSE PLATES; CLARIFY THE FEE FOR A SPECIAL PLATE ON A PROPERTY HAULING VEHICLE; ELIMINATE THE FEE FOR REGISTRATION RENEWAL BY MAIL; AMEND REQUIREMENT FOR SEPARATE REGISTRATION OF LOGGING TRUCKS; MODIFY APPLICATION OF LIGHT-TRAFFIC ROAD LIMITATIONS AND PENALTIES; AUTHORIZE INCIDENT MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PATROL VEHICLES TO USE RED LIGHTS: EXTEND APPLICABILITY OF THE MOVE OVER LAW TO VEHICLES BEING USED TO RESTORE ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICE DUE TO AN UNPLANNED EVENT; MODIFY THE CURRENT PROHIBITION ON PARKING ON HIGHWAYS OR HIGHWAY SHOULDERS; PROVIDE THAT FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE LAWS GOVERNING TRANSPORTER PLATES IS GROUNDS FOR DENYING, SUSPENDING, OR REVOKING A DEALER LICENSE; SPECIFY THAT THE YELLOW LIGHT DURATION INTERVAL FOR A TRAFFIC PHOTOGRAPHIC SYSTEM BE SET OUT IN A TRAFFIC SIGNAL PLAN SIGNED AND SEALED BY A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER; CHANGE THE LAW CONCERNING REMOVAL OF ABANDONED VEHICLES FROM STREETS AND HIGHWAYS IN MUNICIPALITIES, EXEMPT HAULERS OF ANIMAL WASTE USED IN AGRIBUSINESS FROM THE WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ON STATE ROADS, AND CLARIFY REQUIREMENTS FOR DOT INSPECTION PROGRAM CALL CENTER.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 20-7(f) reads as rewritten:

"(f) Duration and Renewal of Licenses. – Drivers licenses shall be issued and renewed pursuant to the provisions of this subsection:

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- (1) Duration of license for persons under age 18. A full provisional license issued to a person under the age of 18 expires on the person's twenty-first birthday.
- Duration of original license for persons at least 18 years of age or older. A drivers license issued to a person at least 18 years old but less than 54 years old expires on the birthday of the licensee in the eighth year after issuance. A drivers license issued to a person at least 54 years old expires on the birthday of the licensee in the fifth year after issuance. A commercial drivers license shall expire on the birth date of the licensee in the fifth year after issuance. A commercial drivers license that has a vehicles carrying passengers (P) and school bus (S) endorsement issued pursuant to G.S. 20-37.16 shall expire on the birth date of the licensee three years after the date of issuance, if the licensee is certified to drive a school bus in North Carolina.
- Duration of renewed licenses. A renewed drivers license that was issued by the Division to a person at least 18 years old but less than 54 years old expires eight years after the expiration date of the license that is renewed. A renewed drivers license that was issued by the Division to a person at least 54 years old expires five years after the expiration date of the license that is renewed. A commercial drivers license shall expire on the birth date of the licensee in the fifth-year-after issuance.
- (3) Duration of license for certain other drivers. The durations listed in subdivisions (1), (2) and (2a) of this subsection are valid unless the Division determines that a license of shorter duration should be issued when the applicant holds valid documentation issued by, or under the authority of, the United States government that demonstrates the applicant's legal presence of limited duration in the United States. In no event shall a license of limited duration expire later than the expiration of the authorization for the applicant's legal presence in the United States.
- (3a) When to renew. A person may apply to the Division to renew a license during the 180-day period before the license expires. The Division may not accept an application for renewal made before the 180-day period begins.
- (3b) Renewal for certain members of the Armed Forces and reserve components of the Armed Forces.
 - a. The Division may renew a drivers license, without limitation on the period of time before the license expires, if the person applying for renewal is a member of the Armed Forces or of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States and provides orders that place the member on active duty and duty station outside this State.
 - b. A person who is a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States whose license bears an expiration date that occurred while the person was on active duty outside this State shall be considered to have a valid license until 60 days after the date of release from active duty upon showing proof of the release date, unless the license was rescinded, revoked, or otherwise invalidated under some other provision of law. Notwithstanding the provisions of this sub-subdivision, no license shall be considered valid more than 18 months after the date of expiration.
- (4) Renewal by mail. The Division may renew by mail a drivers license issued by the Division to a person who meets any of the following descriptions:

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Is a member of the Armed Forces or a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States serving on active duty and is stationed outside this State.

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b. Is a resident of this State and has been residing outside the State for at least 30 continuous days.

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When renewing a license by mail, the Division may waive the examination that would otherwise be required for the renewal and may impose any conditions it finds advisable. A license renewed by mail is a temporary license that expires 60 days after the person to whom it is issued returns to this State.

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(5) License to be sent by mail. - The Division shall issue to the applicant a temporary driving certificate valid for 20 days, unless the applicant is applying for renewal by mail under subdivision (4) of this subsection. The temporary driving certificate shall be valid for driving purposes only and shall not be valid for identification purposes. The Division shall produce the applicant's drivers license at a central location and send it to the applicant by first-class mail at the residence address provided by the applicant unless the applicant is ineligible for mail delivery by the binited States Postal Service at the the applicant's residence. If the United States Bistal Service documents that a it does not deliver to the residential address provided by the applicant, and so the the Division has verified the applicant's residential address by other means, the Division may mail the drivers license to the post office box provided by the applicant. Applicants whose only mailing address prior to July 1, 2008. was a post office box in this State may continue to receive their license at that post office box, provided the applicant's residential address has been

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SECTION 2. G.S. 20-63(b) reads as rewritten:

verified by the Division."

"(b) Every license plate shall have displayed upon it the registration number assigned to the vehicle for which it is issued, the name of the State of North Carolina, which may be abbreviated, and the year number for which it is issued or the date of expiration. A plate issued for a commercial vehicle, as defined in G.S. 20-4.2(1), and weighing 26,001 pounds or more, must bear the word "commercial," unless the plate is a special registration plate authorized in G.S. 20-79.4 or the commercial vehicle is a trailer or is licensed for 6,000 pounds or less. The plate issued for vehicles licensed for 7,000 pounds through 26,000 pounds must bear the word "weighted". "weighted", unless the plate is a special registration plate authorized in G.S. 20-79.4.

Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a registration plate issued by the Division for a private passenger vehicle or for a private hauler vehicle licensed for 6,000 pounds or less shall be a "First in Flight" plate. A "First in Flight" plate shall have the words "First in Flight" printed at the top of the plate above all other letters and numerals. The background of the plate shall depict the Wright Brothers biplane flying over Kitty Hawk Beach, with the plane flying slightly upward and to the right. The following special registration plates do not have to be a "First in Flight" plate. The design of the plates that are not "First in Flight" plates must be approved by the Division and the State Highway Patrol for clarity and ease of identification.

- 44 45
- (1) Friends of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
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- (2) Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.
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- (3) Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation.(4) Friends of the Appalachian Trail.
- 48
- (5) NC Coastal Federation.
- 49 50
- (6) In God We Trust.
- 51
- (7) Stock Car Racing Theme.

- <u>``1</u> (8) Buddy Pelletier Surfing Foundation. 2 (9) Guilford Battleground Company. 3 (10)National Wild Turkey Federation. 4 (11)North Carolina Aquarium Society. 5 · (12) First in Forestry. Ġ (13) . North Carolina Wildlife Habitat Foundation. 7 (14)NC Trout Unlimited. 8 (15)Ducks Unlimited. 9 (16)Lung Cancer Research. 10 (17)NC State Parks. 11 (18)Support Our Troops. 12 US Equine Rescue League. (19)13 (20)Fox Hunting. 14 (21) Back Country Horsemen of North Carolina. 15 (22)Hospice Care. 16 (23).Home Care and Hospice. 17 NC Tennis Foundation. $(24)^{\circ}$ 18 (25)AIDS Awareness
 - "(g) Alteration, Disguise, or Concealment of Numbers. Any operator of a motor vehicle who shall willfully mutilate, bend, twist, cover or cause to be covered or partially covered by any bumper, light, spare tire, tire rack, strap, or other device, or who shall paint, enamel, emboss, stamp, print, perforate, or alter or add to or cut off any part or portion of a registration plate or the figures or letters thereon, or who shall place or deposit or cause to be placed or deposited any oil, grease, or other substance upon such registration plates for the purpose of making dust adhere thereto, or who shall deface, disfigure, change, or attempt to change any letter or figure thereon, or who shall display a number plate in other than a horizontal upright position, shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. Any operator of a motor vehicle who shall willfully cover or cause to be covered any part or portion of a registration plate or the figures or letters thereon by any device designed or intended to prevent or interfere with the taking of a clear photograph of a registration plate by a traffic control or toll collection system using cameras commits an infraction and shall be fined penalized under G.S. 14-3.1. Any operator of a motor vehicle who shall otherwise intentionally cover any number or registration renewal sticker on a registration plate with any material that makes the number or registration renewal sticker illegible commits an infraction and shall be fined penalized under G.S. 14-3.1. Any operator of a motor vehicle who covers any registration number, registration letter, or the State name on a registration plate, number on a year sticker, or number on a month sticker with any frame or transparent clear or color-tinted cover that makes the registration numbers, registration letters, the State name, or the numbers on the stickers illegible commits an infraction and shall be penalized under G.S. 14-3.1. Any operator of a motor vehicle who covers the State name, year sticker, or month sticker on a registration plate with a license plate frame commits an infraction and shall be fined under G.S. 14-3.1. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the use of transparent covers that do not prevent or interfere with the taking of a clear photograph of a registration plate by a traffic control or toll collection system using cameras."

SECTION 3. G.S. 20-63(g) reads as rewritten:

SECTION 4. G.S. 20-64.2 is repealed. **SECTION 5.** G.S. 20-79 reads as rewritten:

"§ 20-79. Dealer license plates.

(a) How to Get a Dealer Plate. – The Division may issue a person licensed under Article 12 of this Chapter the appropriate classification of dealer license plate. A person eligible for a dealer license plate may obtain one by filing an application with the Division and

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paying the required fee. An application must be filed on a form provided by the Division. The required fee is the amount set by G.S. 20-87(7).

(b) Number of Plates. – A dealer who was licensed under Article 12 of this Chapter for the previous 12-month period ending December 31 may obtain the number of dealer license plates allowed by the following table; the number allowed is based on the number of motor vehicles the dealer sold during the relevant 12-month period and the average number of qualifying sales representatives the dealer employed during that same 12-month period:

Vehicles Sold In Relevant 12-Month Period	Maximum Number of Plates
Fewer than 12	1 <u>3</u>
At least 12 but less than 25	$4\overline{-6}$
At least 25 but less than 37	<u>\$\overline{7}</u>
At least 37 but less than 49	$6\overline{8}$
49 or more	At least—6 8, but no more than -4-5 times the average number of qualifying sales representatives employed by the dealer during the relevant 12-month period.

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50. A dealer who was not licensed under Article 12 of this Chapter for part or all of these previous 12-month period ending December 31 may obtain the number of dealer license plates that equals four times the number of qualifying sales representatives employed by the dealer on the date the dealer files the application. A "qualifying sales representative" is a sales representative who works for the dealer at least 25 hours a week on a regular basis and is compensated by the dealer for this work.

A dealer who sold fewer than 49 motor vehicles the previous 12-month period ending December 31 but has sold at least that number since January 1 may apply for additional dealer license plates at any time. The maximum number of dealer license plates the dealer may obtain is the number the dealer could have obtained if the dealer had sold at least 49 motor vehicles in the previous 12-month period ending December 31.

A dealer who applies for a dealer license plate must certify to the Division the number of motor vehicles the dealer sold in the relevant period. Making a material misstatement in an application for a dealer license plate is grounds for the denial, suspension, or revocation of a dealer's license under G.S. 20-294.

A dealer engaged in the alteration and sale of specialty vehicles may apply for up to two dealer plates in addition to the number of dealer plates that the dealer would otherwise be entitled to under this section.

This subsection does not apply to manufacturers licensed under Article 12 of this Chapter.

(c) Form and Duration. — A dealer license plate is subject to G.S. 20-63, except for the requirement that the plate display the registration number of a motor vehicle and the requirement that the plate be a "First in Flight" plate. A dealer license plate must have a distinguishing symbol identifying the plate as a dealer license plate. The symbol may vary depending upon the classification of dealer license plate issued. The Division must provide suitably reduced sized license plates for motorcycle dealers and manufacturers.

A dealer license plate is issued for a period of one year. The Division shall vary the expiration dates of dealer registration renewals so that an approximately equal number expires at the end of each month, quarter, or other period consisting of one or more months. A dealer license plate may be transferred from one vehicle to another. When the Division issues a dealer plate, it may issue a registration that expires at the end of any monthly interval. When one of the following occurs, a dealer must surrender to the Division all dealer license plates issued to the dealer:

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- (1) The dealer surrenders the license issued to the dealer under Article 12 of this Chapter.
- (2) The Division suspends or revokes the license issued to the dealer under Article 12 of this Chapter.
- (3) The Division rescinds the dealer license plates because of a violation of the restrictions on the use of a dealer license plate.

To obtain a dealer license plate after it has been surrendered, the dealer must file a new application for a dealer license plate and pay the required fee for the plate.

- (d) Restrictions on Use. A dealer license plate or dealer transporter plate may be displayed only on a motor vehicle that meets all of the following requirements:
 - (1) Is part of the inventory of the dealer.
 - (2) Is not consigned to the dealer.
 - (3) Is covered by liability insurance that meets the requirements of Article 9A of this Chapter.
 - (4) Is not used by the dealer in another business in which the dealer is engaged.
 - (5) Is driven on a highway by a person who meets one of the following descriptions:
 - a. Has a demonstration permit to test-drive the motor vehicle and carries the demonstration permit while driving the motor vehicle.
 - b. Is an officer or sales representative of the dealer and is driving the vehicle for a business purpose of the dealer.
 - c. is an employee of the dealer and is driving the vehicle in the course of employment.
 - d. Is an employee of the dealer, or an employee of a business contracted by the dealer to pick up and repair or otherwise prepare for sale a vehicle that is part of the inventory of the dealer. Where the vehicle is being repaired or prepared for sale, the vehicle may only be operated within a 10-mile radius of the place where it is being repaired or prepared for sale.
 - e. Is an employee or contractor of the dealer when transporting a vehicle that is part of the inventory of the dealer when the vehicle is being transported to or from a vehicle auction, or transporting a vehicle that is part of the inventory of the dealer to the dealer's established salesroom.
 - f. A dealer transporter plate shall not be used for purposes of subsections (a), (b), and (c) of this section.
 - (6) A copy of the registration card for the dealer plate or dealer transporter plate issued to the dealer is carried by the person operating the motor vehicle or, if the person is operating the motor vehicle in this State, the registration card is maintained on file at the dealer's address listed on the registration card, and the registration card must be able to be produced within 24 hours upon request of any law enforcement officer.

A dealer may issue a demonstration permit for a motor vehicle to a person licensed to drive that type of motor vehicle. A demonstration permit authorizes each person named in the permit to drive the motor vehicle described in the permit for up to 96 hours after the time the permit is issued. A dealer may, for good cause, renew a demonstration permit for one additional 96-hour period.

A dealer may not lend, rent, lease, or otherwise place a dealer license plate at the disposal of a person except as authorized by this subsection.

(e) Sanctions. – The following sanctions apply when a motor vehicle displaying a dealer license plate is driven in violation of the restrictions on the use of the plate:

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(4) To move a motor vehicle that is owned by the business and is a replaced vehicle offered for sale. The business must have 10 or more vehicles registered to qualify for this provision.
 (5) To take a motor vehicle either to or from a motor vehicle auction where the

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To take a motor vehicle either to or from a motor vehicle auction where the vehicle will be or was offered for sale. <u>Issuance of a transporter plate for this purpose shall be limited to licensed dealers or a business contracted by the</u>

properly licensed and has proof of financial responsibility. Issuance of a

transporter plate for this purpose to a repair facility shall be limited to two

transporter plates for each business.

- dealer to deliver vehicles to or from a motor vehicle auction. Any business contracted by the dealer or auction must have a business privilege license and financial responsibility. The title to the vehicle, a bill of sale, or written authorization from the dealer or auction must be must be inside the vehicle in order to operate a vehicle displaying a transporter plate authorized by this subsection.
- (6) To road-test a repaired truck whose GVWR is at least 15,000 pounds when the test is performed within a 10-mile radius of the place where the truck was repaired and the truck is owned by a person who has a fleet of at least five trucks whose GVWRs are at least 15,000 pounds and who maintains the place where the truck was repaired. Any applicant for a transporter plate pursuant to this subsection shall show proof of garage liability insurance coverage as required by Article 9A of this Chapter.
- (7) To move a mobile office, a mobile classroom, or a mobile or manufactured home, home, or to transport a newly manufactured travel trailer, fifth-wheel trailer, or camping trailer between a manufacturer and a dealer. Any transporter plate used for this purpose shall not be used on the power unit.
- (8) To drive a motor wehicle that is at least 2535 years old to another public event and to drive the motor vehicle in that event. A person who owns a motor vehicle that is at least 2535 years old is considered to be in the business of collecting those vehicles. These vehicles shall be titled in this State and have proof of financial responsibility as required under Article 9A of this Chapter.
- (9) To drive a motor vehicle that is part of the inventory of a dealer to and from a motor vehicle trade show or exhibition or to, during, and from a parade in which the motor vehicle is used. <u>Issuance of a transporter plate for this purpose shall be limited to licensed dealers.</u>
- (10) To drive special mobile equipment in any of the following circumstances:
 - a. From the manufacturer of the equipment to a facility of a dealer.
 - b. From one facility of a dealer to another facility of a dealer.
 - c.: From a dealer to the person who buys the equipment from the dealer.
- (b) How to Get a Plate. A person-business may obtain a transporter plate by filing an application with the Division and paying the required fee. An application must be on a form provided by the Division and contain the information required by the Division. The fee for a transporter plate is one-half the fee set in G.S. 20-87(5) for a passenger motor vehicle of not more than 15 passengers.
- (b1) Number of Plates. The total number of <u>dealer</u> transporter <u>and or</u> dealer plates issued to a dealer may not exceed the <u>total</u> number of <u>dealer</u> plates that can be issued to the dealer under G.S. 20-79(b). This restriction does not apply to a person who is not a dealer. Transporter plates issued to a dealer shall bear the words "Dealer-Transporter." <u>This subsection shall not apply to a person who is not a dealer.</u>
- (b2) Sanctions. The following sanctions apply when a motor vehicle displaying a "Dealer-Transporter" or "Transporter" license plate is driven in violation of the restrictions on the use of the plate or in violation of the requirements for financial responsibility in this section:
 - (1) The individual driving the motor vehicle is responsible for an infraction and is subject to a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00).one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
 - (2) The dealer person, dealer, or business to whom the plate is issued is subject to a civil penalty imposed by the Division of two hundred dollars (\$200.00). two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) per occurrence.

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(3) The Division may rescind all dealer license plates, dealer transporter plates, or transporter plates issued to the dealer-person, dealer, or business whose plate was displayed on the motor vehicle.

<u>(4)</u> Any person, dealer, or business who sells, rents, leases, or otherwise provides a transporter plate to another person or business in exchange for money or any other thing of value shall be guilty of a Class I felony. Any conviction for violation of this subdivision shall be considered a felony involving moral turpitude for purposes of G.S. 20-294.

A penalty imposed under subdivision (1) of this subsection is payable to the county where the infraction occurred, as required by G.S. 14-3.1. A civil penalty imposed under subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be credited to the Highway Fund as nontax revenue. A law enforcement officer having probable cause to believe that a transporter plate is being used in violation of this section may seize the plate.

- Form, Duration, and Transfer. A transporter plate is a type of commercial license (c) plate. A transporter plate issued to a dealer is issued on a fiscal-year basis. A transporter plate issued to a person who is not a dealer is issued on a calendar year basis. A transporter license plate is subject to G.S. 20-63, except for the requirement that the plate display the registration number of a motor vehicle and the requirement that the plate be a "First in Flight" plate. A transporter license plate shall have a distinguishing symbol identifying the plate as a transporter license plate. The symbol may vary depending upon the classification of transporter license plate issued. A transporter license plate is issued for a period of one year. The Division shall vary the expiration dates of transporter registration renewals so that an approximately equal number expires at the end of each month, quarter, or other period consisting of one or more months. When the Division issues a transporter plate, it may issue a registration that expires at the end of any monthly interval. During the year for which it is issued, a person business or dealer may transfer a transporter plate from one vehicle to another as long as the vehicle is driven only for a purpose authorized by subsection (a) of this section. The Division may-shall rescind a transporter plate that is displayed on a motor vehicle driven for a purpose that is not authorized by subsection (a) of this section.
- A county may obtain one transporter plate, without paying a fee, by filing an application with the Division on a form to be provided by the Division. A transporter plate issued pursuant to this subsection may only be used to transport motor vehicles as part of a program established by the county to receive donated motor vehicles and make them available to low-income individuals.

If a motor vehicle is operated on the highways of this State using a transporter plate authorized by this section, all of the following requirements shall be met:

- The driver of the vehicle shall have in his or her possession the certificate of title for the motor vehicle, which has been properly reassigned by the previous owner to the county or the affected donor program.
- (2) The vehicle shall be covered by liability insurance that meets the requirements of Article 9A of this Chapter.

The form and duration of the transporter plate shall be as provided in subsection (c) of this section.

Any vehicle being operated on the highways of this State using a transporter plate shall have proof of financial responsibility that meets the requirement of Article 9A of this Chapter."

SECTION 7. G.S. 20-79.7(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) Fees. - Upon request, the Division shall provide and issue free of charge one registration plate a single Legion of Valor, 100% Disabled Veteran, and Ex-Prisoner of War registration plate to a recipient of a Legion of Valor award, a 100% disabled veteran, and an ex-prisoner of war. war each year. The preceding special registration plates are subject to the

regular motor vehicle registration fees in G.S. 20-88, if the registered weight of the vehicle is greater than 6,000 pounds. All other special registration plates, including additional Legion of Valor, 100% Disabled Veteran, and Ex-Prisoner of War plates, plates are subject to the regular motor vehicle registration fee in G.S. 20-87 or G.S. 20-88 plus an additional fee in the following amount:

SECTION 8. G.S. 20-85.1 reads as rewritten:

"§ 20-85.1. Registration by mail; one-day title service; fees.

- The owner of a vehicle registered in North Carolina may renew that vehicle registration by mail. A postage and handling fee of one dollar (\$1.00) per vehicle to be registered shall be charged for this service.
- The Commissioner and the employees of the Division designated by the Commissioner may prepare and deliver upon request a certificate of title, charging a fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for one-day title service, in lieu of the title fee required by G.S. 20-85(a). The fee for one-day title service must be paid by cash or by certified check. This fee shall be credited to the Highway Trust Fund.
- The fee collected under subsection (a) shall be credited to the Highway-Fund. The fee collected under subsection (b) shall be credited to the Highway Trust Fund."

SECTION 9. G.S. 20-88.02 reads as rewritten:

"§ 20-88.02. Registration of logging vehicles.

Upon receipt of an application on a form prescribed by it, the Division shall register trucks, tractor trucks, trailers, and semitrailers trucks and tractor trucks used exclusively in connection with logging operations in a separate category. operations, as provided in section 4483(e) of the Internal Revenue Code and 26 C.F.R. § 41.4483-6 for the collection of the federal heavy vehicle use tax. For the purposes of this section, "logging" shall mean the harvesting of timber and transportation from a forested site to places of sale.

Fees for the registration of vehicles under this section shall be the same as those ordinarily charged for the type of vehicle being registered."

SECTION 10. G.S. 20-118(c) reads as rewritten:

"§ 20-118. Weight of vehicles and load.

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- Exceptions. The following exceptions apply to G.S. 20-118(b) and 20-118(e). (c)
 - Two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross weight of 34,000 (1)pounds each without penalty provided the overall distance between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more.
 - (2) When a vehicle is operated in violation of G.S. 20-118(b)(1), 20-118(b)(2), or 20-118(b)(3), but the gross weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles does not exceed that permitted by G.S. 20-118(b)(3), the owner of the vehicle shall be permitted to shift the load within the vehicle, without penalty, from one axle to another to comply with the weight limits in the following cases:
 - Where the single-axle load exceeds the statutory limits, but does not exceed 21,000 pounds.
 - Where the vehicle or combination of vehicles has tandem axles, but b. the tandem-axle weight does not exceed 40,000 pounds.
 - When a vehicle is operated in violation of G.S. 20-118(b)(4) the owner of (3) the vehicle shall be permitted, without penalty, to shift the load within the vehicle from one axle to another to comply with the weight limits where the single-axle weight does not exceed the posted limit by 2,500 pounds.
 - (4)A truck or other motor vehicle shall be exempt from such light-traffic road limitations provided for pursuant to G.S. 20-118(b)(4), when transporting

- tractor, or other replacement vehicle to the site of the disabled vehicle without being in violation of G.S. 20-118 provided that the wrecker and towed vehicle or combination of vehicles otherwise meet all requirements of this section.
- (8) A firefighting vehicle operated by any member of a municipal or rural fire department in the performance of his duties, regardless of whether members of that fire department are paid or voluntary and any vehicle of a voluntary lifesaving organization, when operated by a member of that organization while answering an official call shall be exempt from such light-traffic road limitations provided by G.S. 20-118(b)(4).
- (9) Repealed by Session Laws 1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 761, s. 12.
- (10) Fully enclosed motor vehicles designed specifically for collecting, compacting and hauling garbage from residences, or from garbage dumpsters shall, when operating for those purposes, be allowed a single axle weight not to exceed 23,500 pounds on the steering axle on vehicles equipped with a boom, or on the rear axle on vehicles loaded from the rear. This exemption shall not apply to vehicles operating on interstate highways, vehicles transporting hazardous waste as defined in G.S. 130A-290(a)(8), spent nuclear fuel regulated under G.S. 20-167.1, low-level radioactive waste as defined in G.S. 104E-5(9a), or radioactive material as defined in G.S. 104E-5(14).
- (11) A truck or other motor vehicle shall be exempt for light-traffic road limitations issued under subdivision (b)(4) of this section when transporting heating fuel for on-premises use at a destination located on the light-traffic road.
- (12) Subsections (b) and (e) of this section do not apply to a vehicle that meets all of the conditions set out below:
 - a. Is hauling agricultural crops from the farm where the crop is grown to any market within 150 miles of that farm.
 - b. Repealed by Session Laws 1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 761, s. 13.
 - b1. Does not operate on an interstate highway or exceed any posted bridge weight limits during transportation or hauling of agricultural products.
 - c. Does not exceed a single-axle weight of 22,000 pounds, a tandem-axle weight of 42,000 pounds, or a gross weight of 90,000 pounds.
- (13) Vehicles specifically designed for fire fighting that are owned by a municipal or rural fire department. This exception does not apply to vehicles operating on interstate highways.
- (14) Subsections (b) and (e) of this section do not apply to a vehicle that meets all of the conditions below, but all other enforcement provisions of this Article remain applicable:
 - a. Is hauling aggregates from a distribution yard or a State-permitted production site located within a North Carolina county contiguous to the North Carolina State border to a destination in another state adjacent to that county as verified by a weight ticket in the driver's possession and available for inspection by enforcement personnel.
 - b. Does not operate on an interstate highway or exceed any posted bridge weight limits.
 - c. Does not exceed 69,850 pounds gross vehicle weight and 53,850 pounds per axle grouping for tri-axle vehicles. For purposes of this

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subsection, a tri-axle vehicle is a single power unit vehicle with a three consecutive axle group on which the respective distance between any two consecutive axles of the group, measured longitudinally center to center to the nearest foot, does not exceed eight feet. For purposes of this subsection, the tolerance provisions of subsection (h) of this section do not apply, and vehicles must be licensed in accordance with G.S. 20-88.

- d. Repealed by Session Laws 2001-487, s. 10, effective December 16, 2001.
- (15) Subsections (b) and (e) of this section do not apply to a vehicle or vehicle combination that meets all of the conditions below, but all other enforcement provisions of this Article remain applicable:
 - a. Is hauling wood residuals, including wood chips, sawdust, mulch, or tree bark from any site; is hauling raw logs to first market; or is transporting bulk soil, bulk rock, sand, sand rock, or asphalt millings from a site that does not have a certified scale for weighing the vehicle; or is hauling animal waste products from the animal waste storage site to a farm or field.
 - b. Does not operate on an interstate highway, a posted light-traffic road, except as provided by subdivision (c)(5) of this section, or exceed any posted bridge weight limits.
 - c. Does not exceed a maximum gross weight 4,000 pounds in excess of what is allowed in subsection (b) of this section.
 - d. Does not exceed a single-axle weight of more than 22,000 pounds and a tandem-axle weight of more than 42,000 pounds.

SECTION 11. G.S. 20-130.1 reads as rewritten:

"§ 20-130.1. Use of red or blue lights on vehicles prohibited; exceptions.

- (a) It is unlawful for any person to install or activate or operate a red light in or on any vehicle in this State. As used in this subsection, unless the context requires otherwise, "red light" means an operable red light not sealed in the manufacturer's original package which: (i) is designed for use by an emergency vehicle or is similar in appearance to a red light designed for use by an emergency vehicle; and (ii) can be operated by use of the vehicle's battery, vehicle's electrical system, or a dry cell battery. As used in this subsection, the term "red light" shall also mean any forward facing red light installed on a vehicle after initial manufacture of the vehicle.
 - (b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section do not apply to the following:
 - (1) A police car;
 - (2) A highway patrol car:
 - (3) A vehicle owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission and operated exclusively for law-enforcement purposes:
 - (4) An ambulance:
 - (5) A vehicle used by an organ procurement organization or agency for the recovery and transportation of blood, human tissues, or organs for transplantation;
 - (6) A fire-fighting vehicle:
 - (7) A school bus:
 - (8) A vehicle operated by any member of a municipal or rural fire department in the performance of his duties, regardless of whether members of that fire department are paid or voluntary;

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- (9) A vehicle of a voluntary lifesaving organization (including the private vehicles of the members of such an organization) that has been officially approved by the local police authorities and which is manned or operated by members of that organization while answering an official call:
- A vehicle operated by medical doctors or anesthetists in emergencies; (10)
- (11)A motor vehicle used in law enforcement by the sheriff, or any salaried rural policeman in any county, regardless of whether or not the county owns the
- (11a) A vehicle operated by the State Fire Marshal or his representatives in the performance of their duties, whether or not the State owns the vehicle;
- (12)A vehicle operated by any county fire marshal, assistant fire marshal, or emergency management coordinator in the performance of his duties, regardless of whether or not the county owns the vehicle;
- (13)A light required by the Federal Highway Administration;
- (14)A vehicle operated by a transplant coordinator who is an employee of an organ procurement organization or agency when the transplant coordinator is responding to a call to recover or transport human tissues or organs for transplantation;
- A vehicle operated by an emergency medical service as an emergency (15)support vehicle; and
- A State emergency management vehicle; and (16)
- <u>(17)</u> An Incident Management Assistance Patrol vehicle operated by the Department of Transportation, when using rear-facing red lights while stopped for the purpose of providing assistance or incident management.
- It is unlawful for any person to possess a blue light or to install, activate, or operate a blue light in or on any vehicle in this State, except for a publicly owned vehicle used for law enforcement purposes or any other vehicle when used by law enforcement officers in the performance of their official duties. As used in this subsection, unless the context requires otherwise, "blue light" means any forward facing blue light installed on a vehicle after initial manufacture of the vehicle; or an operable blue light which:
 - Is not (i) being installed on, held in inventory for the purpose of being installed on, or held in inventory for the purpose of sale for installation on a vehicle on which it may be lawfully operated or (ii) installed on a vehicle which is used solely for the purpose of demonstrating the blue light for sale to law enforcement personnel:
 - Is designed for use by an emergency vehicle, or is similar in appearance to a (la) blue light designed for use by an emergency vehicle; and
 - (2) Can be operated by use of the vehicle's battery, the vehicle's electrical system, or a dry cell battery.
- The provisions of subsection (c) of this section do not apply to the possession and installation of an inoperable blue light on a vehicle that is inspected by and registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles as a specially constructed vehicle and that is used primarily for participation in shows, exhibitions, parades, or holiday/weekend activities, and not for general daily transportation. For purposes of this subsection, "inoperable blue light" means a blue-colored lamp housing or cover that does not contain a lamp or other mechanism having the ability to produce or emit illumination.
 - Repealed by Session Laws 1999-249, s. 1. (d)
 - (e) Violation of subsection (a) or (c) of this section is a Class 1 misdemeanor." SECTION 12. G.S. 20-157(f) reads as rewritten:
- When an authorized emergency vehicle as described in subsection (a) of this section or any public service vehicle is parked or standing within 12 feet of a roadway and is giving a

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warning signal by appropriate light, the driver of every other approaching vehicle shall, as soon as it is safe and when not otherwise directed by an individual lawfully directing traffic, do one of the following:

- (1) Move the vehicle into a lane that is not the lane nearest the parked or standing authorized emergency vehicle or public service vehicle and continue traveling in that lane until safely clear of the authorized emergency vehicle. This paragraph applies only if the roadway has at least two lanes for traffic proceeding in the direction of the approaching vehicle and if the approaching vehicle may change lanes safely and without interfering with any vehicular traffic.
- Slow the vehicle, maintaining a safe speed for traffic conditions, and operate (2) the vehicle at a reduced speed and be prepared to stop until completely past the authorized emergency vehicle or public service vehicle. This paragraph applies only if the roadway has only one lane for traffic proceeding in the direction of the approaching vehicle or if the approaching vehicle may not change lanes safely and without interfering with any vehicular traffic.

For purposes of this section, "public service vehicle" means a vehicle that is being used to assist motorists or law enforcement officers with wrecked or disabled vehicles, or is a vehicle being used to restore electric utility service due to an unplanned event, and is operating an amber-colored flashing light authorized by G.S. 20-130.2. Violation of this subsection shall be negligence per se."

SECTION 13. G.S. 20-161(a) reads as rewritten:

No person shall park or leave standing any vehicle, whether attended or unattended, upon the paved or main-traveled portion of any highway or highway bridge outside municipal corporate-limits with the speed limit posted less than 45 miles per hour unless the vehicle is disabled to such an extent that it is impossible to avoid stopping and temporarily leaving the vehicle upon the paved or main traveled portion of the highway or highway bridge. This subsection shall not apply to a solid waste vehicle stopped on a highway while engaged in collecting garbage as defined in G.S. 20-118(c)(5)g. or recyclable material as defined in G.S. 130A-290(a)(26)."

SECTION 14. G.S. 20-161 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(a1) No person shall park or leave standing any vehicle, whether attended or unattended. upon the paved or main-traveled portion of any highway or highway bridge with the speed limit posted 45 miles per hour or greater unless the vehicle is disabled to such an extent that it is impossible to avoid stopping and temporarily leaving the vehicle upon the paved or main-traveled portion of the highway or highway bridge. This subsection shall not apply to a solid waste vehicle stopped on a highway while engaged in collecting garbage as defined in G.S. 20-118(c)(5)g. or recyclable material as defined in G.S. 130A-290(a)(26)."

SECTION 15. G.S. 20-161(b) reads as rewritten:

No person shall park or leave standing any vehicle upon the shoulder of a public highway outside municipal corporate limits unless the vehicle can be clearly seen by approaching drivers from a distance of 200 feet in both directions and does not obstruct the normal movement of traffic."

SECTION 16. G.S. 20-294(2) reads as rewritten:

"§ 20-294. Grounds for denying, suspending or revoking licenses.

The Division may deny, suspend, or revoke a license issued under this Article for any one or more of the following grounds:

> (2) Willfully and intentionally failing to comply with this Article, Article 15 of this Chapter, or G.S. 20-52.1, 20-75, 20-79.1, 20-79.2, 20-108, 20-109, or a rule adopted by the Division under this Article."

SECTION 17. G.S. 160A-300.1(c1) reads as rewritten:

"(c1) The duration of the yellow light change interval at intersections where traffic control photographic systems are in use shall be no less than the yellow light change interval duration specified in the Design Manual developed by the Signals and Geometries Section of the North Carolina Department of Transportation on the traffic signal plan of record signed and sealed by a professional engineer, licensed in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 89C of the General Statutes, and shall comply with the provisions of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices."

SECTION 18. G.S. 160A-300.2(e), as enacted by Section 3 of S.L. 2001-286, reads as rewritten:

"(e) The duration of the yellow light change interval at intersections where traffic control photographic systems are in use shall be no less than the yellow light change interval duration specified in the Design Manual developed by the Signals and Geometries Section of the North Carolina Department of Transportation.on the traffic signal plan of record signed and sealed by a professional engineer, licensed in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 89C of the General Statutes, and shall comply with the provisions of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices."

SECTION 19. G.S. 160A-300.3(e), as enacted by Section 4 of S.L. 2001-286, reads as rewritten:

"(e) The duration of the yellow light change interval at intersections where traffic control photographic systems are in use shall be no less than the yellow light change interval duration specified in the Design Manual developed by the Signals and Geometries Section of the North Carolina Department of Transportation.on the traffic signal plan of record signed and sealed by a professional engineer, licensed in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 89C of the General Statutes, and shall comply with the provisions of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices."

SECTION 20. G.S. 160A-303(b1)(4) reads as rewritten:

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'(4) Is left on any public street or highway for longer than seven days.days or is determined by law enforcement to be a hazard to the motoring public."

SECTION 21. Section 25.10 of S.L. 2009-451, as added by Section 20 of S.L. 2009-575, reads as rewritten:

"DMV TO MOVE EMISSIONS <u>INSPECTION</u> PROGRAM CALL CENTER TO NORTH CAROLINA

"SECTION 25.10. The Department of Transportation, Division of Motor Vehicles, shall replace the current out-of-state contractors handling questions from service station operators about the State's emissions inspection program with State employees at an existing Division of Motor Vehicles call center within the State. The Department of Transportation, Division of Motor Vehicles, is authorized to create up to 15 new receipt-supported positions to replace the current out-of-state contractors."

SECTION 22. Sections 21 and 22 of this act are effective when it becomes law. The remainder of this act becomes effective December 1, 2010, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.